

**THE TIMES Tomorrow**

**Kremlin's doorman**  
Richard Owen speaks to Soviet historian and observer Roy Medvedev, who now has Western visitors turned away from his door by police

**Pacing the changes**  
Why the West should pause for thought before trying to force change in South Africa

**Play for today**  
Friday game meets a rare breed: Britain's women polo players

**Ride for today**  
Michael Seely reports on the 1,000 Guineas from Newmarket

**Labour MP expelled for five days**

Mr Tam Dalyell, Labour MP for Linlithgow, was expelled from the Commons for five days after repeatedly refusing to withdraw an accusation that Mrs Margaret Thatcher had lied. He maintains she knew of peace proposals when the order was given to sink the Belgrano.

Parliament, page 4

**Bombing charge**

Ali Mubashir, aged 22, will appear in court today charged with conspiracy to cause explosions in London in March when devices exploded in an Arab club and a shop, injuring 23 people.

**Woolworth sale**

Heron Corporation has bought 32 Woolworth stores for £50m, and WH Smith has launched a £34m takeover bid for Martin the Newsagent.

Page 21

**Israeli tourists**

Three Israelis captured by Syria and accused of being terrorists were said by their Government to have been sighted. Page 6

**Virus alert**

There was some risk of cholera and hepatitis viruses escaping from the National Institute for Biological Standards and Control in north London, MPs have been told.

Page 5

**Pity - I was going to order some Telecom shares**

calman

**Killer crocodile**

Nigel Cox, a British student aged 27, and a Zambian wildlife ranger were killed by a crocodile in Luangwa National Park, Zambia.

**Leader page 17**  
Letters: On public-service pay, from Mr J. A. Graham and others; nurses from Mr B. H. Bateman; cricket from Mr J. McPherson, and Mr Humphrey Brooke

**Leading articles:** New Ireland Forum; British Telecom Features, pages 10, 16

**A European answer to terrorism:** visa vexations, the miners strike - political at every level. Spectrum: a profile of David Storey

**Books, page 11**  
Peter Calvocoressi reviews *British Intelligence in the Second World War*; John Nicholson on fiction; Philippa Toomey on historical novels; Ronald Faux on Heaton Cooper, the Lake District artist

**Obituary, page 20**  
Mr John Aglen, Mrs Clare Winnicott, Mr Eric Slater

**Pensions, pages 12-15**  
Every man, woman and child in this country will be affected by developments in the pensions industry. A four-page Special Report explains their effects

**Classified, pages 22-23**  
La cène de la crème; superstars; general appointments; career horizons

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## Demand for British response

# Irish leaders divided on Forum findings

**From Richard Ford, Dublin**

The long-awaited report of the New Ireland Forum was criticized last night for its limited vision by Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, as clear divisions on its findings emerged between party leaders in Dublin.

Speaking shortly after the report had been published, Mr Prior said he was disappointed but that he and his colleagues would give it careful consideration.

The report was released after 11 months of work by Ireland's four major constitutional nationalist parties at St Patrick's Hall, Dublin Castle, before an invited audience of more than 600 people including the British ambassador, Mr Alan Goodison, and other diplomats.

Last night the 38-page document was greeted by the participants as a triumph for they claimed it presents a broad consensus of the nationalist case for the first time in 60 years as well as recognizing for the first time the Britishness of unionists in the north.

As the party leaders presented the report they demanded a response from Britain, saying that constitutional politics were on trial, and implying that unless urgent action is taken, the drift to civil war in the province will become irreversible.

But the consensus that the leaders of the Fine Gael, Fianna Fáil, Labour and the Northern Social Democratic and Labour Party worked so hard to achieve began to break down as each of the leaders held separate press conferences following publication.

Mr Charles Haughey appeared to be at odds with the other leaders and particularly with Dr FitzGerald by saying that the report's conclusion for a unitary state was the only option. He thought that a federal or joint sovereignty solution would not bring peace and urged an end to the British

Constitutional guarantee given to Northern Ireland.

The other leaders were prepared to consider all options and Dr FitzGerald repeatedly stressed that any movement had to be on the basis of consent freely negotiated and agreed and that he was not asking for Britain to withdraw its constitutional guarantee.

The report's main conclusion is that nationalists wish for a sovereign united Ireland as the best method of bringing peace and stability. But they insist this can only be achieved by consent. Its structures would be agreed at an all-party conference in which a new constitution would be drawn up providing irrevocable guarantees for the protection of unionist and nationalist identities.

A federal Ireland, and joint sovereignty are also discussed but it is clear that Mr Haughey secured his aim of getting the major emphasis on a unitary state solution.

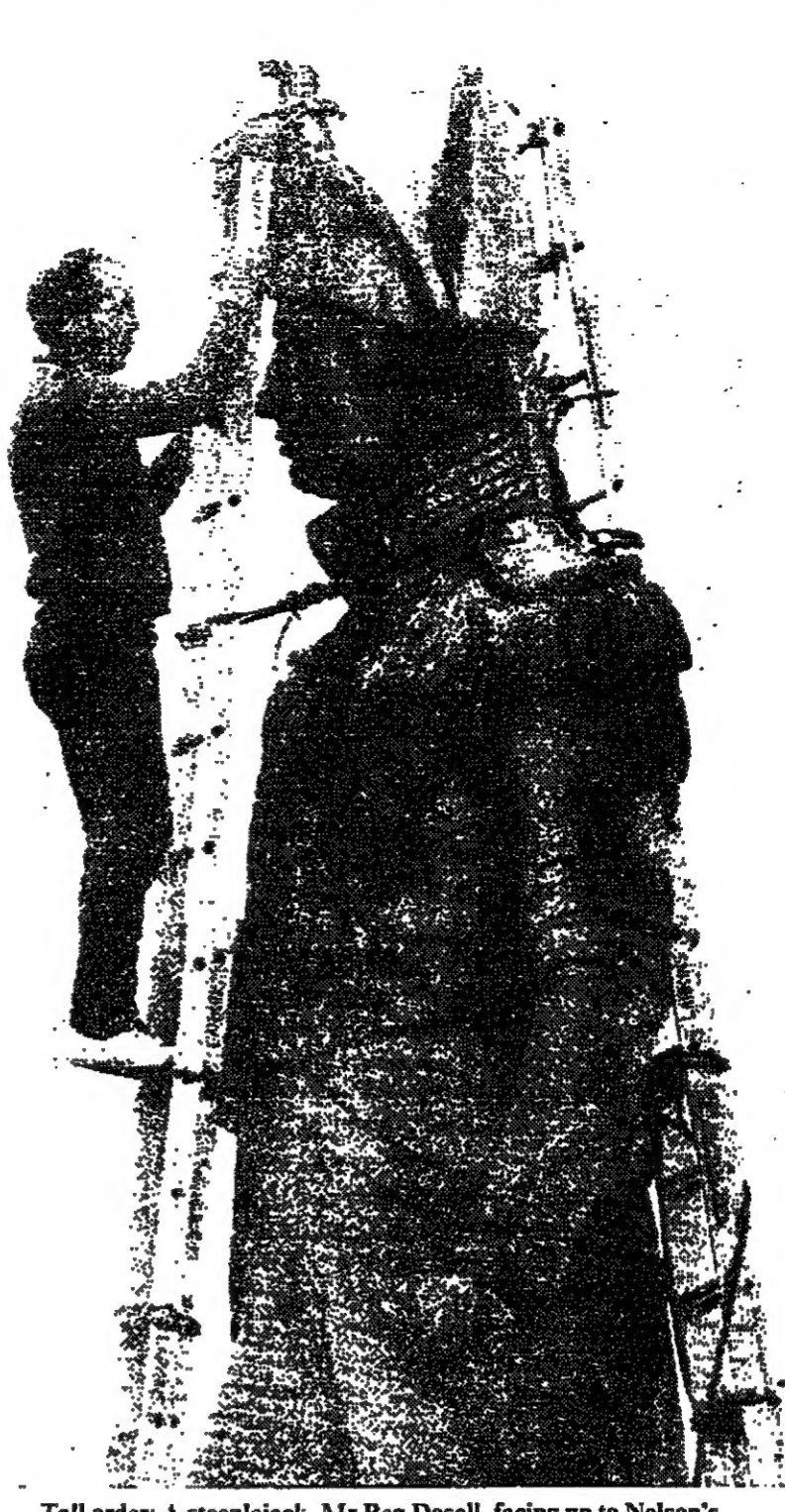
In an analysis of the problem since partition, the report is highly critical of Britain, particularly what it describes as "the crisis management" since 1969, warning that the immobility and short-term focus of British policy is making a dangerous situation worse.

British security policies are criticized as are a number of failed initiatives because they have failed to realize that the problem transcends Northern Ireland.

It analyses the problem and proposes a framework for future development, but insists that arrangements for a new and sovereign Ireland would have to be freely negotiated and agreed by the people of the north and the south.

Civil and religious liberties and rights would be guaranteed and new mutually acceptable security arrangements introduced.

Leading article, page 17  
Text extracts and reaction, page 4



Tall order: A steeplejack, Mr Reg Dosell, facing up to Nelson's statue above Trafalgar Square before renovation starts tomorrow (Photograph: John Manning).

## Close study promised by Prior

**By Julian Haviland, Political Editor**

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, in an immediate response to the publication of the Forum report, promised careful study both of its proposals and of reaction to them. "Not least in Northern Ireland."

Mr Prior picked out and welcomed the report's "important positive elements", specifically the unambiguous commitments of the Forum's participants to the policies of peaceful persuasion and unqualified opposition to violence.

But while clearly anxious to make the most of the report's virtues, Mr Prior also made plain his disappointment with what he and his colleagues consider its limited vision.

Unionist opposition to Irish unity was the principle rather than the forum, he said. The report acknowledged that consent must be freely given and "there is no reason to expect such consent to a change in sovereignty in Northern Ireland in any of the three forms suggested."

The paradox which British ministers find in the report is that it recognizes the need for consent while advancing ideas which have no prospect of commanding consent.

Mr Prior is privately resentful, on behalf of successive British governments, at the report's harsh judgment on the last 15 years of British rule.

The Forum's account was "one-sided and unacceptable", his formal statement said. But his weightier complaint is that the report is too narrowly nationalist to be of real value as a starting point for joint discussions on the new framework Dublin seeks.

Nonetheless, the British Government is willing to explore the Forum's ideas in talks with Dublin politicians this summer. Mr Prior said yesterday that Britain welcomed the statement in the report that the parties in the Forum remained open to discuss other views.

## Price limit and special shares will accompany Telecom sale

**By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent**

The Government has restricted the average price increases which can be imposed by British Telecom over the next five years to 3 per cent below the retail index. The restriction will apply to local and trunk calls and business and residential rentals, although residential rentals will be increased to bring them more into line with costs charged to business users.

Employees of British Telecom - about 230,000 - will be offered shares at preferential rates while telephone subscribers are to be encouraged to buy shares in British Telecom by being given vouchers which can be offset against their rental.

These details of the privatization of British Telecom was disclosed by Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, in the House of Commons yesterday.

He said: "The government intends that the British Telecom flotation should provide an opportunity to encourage wider share ownership by both the public and employees of the company."

Employees who work at least 16 hours a week and have been with the state-owned company since April this year will qualify for the special offer.

Said Mr Tebbit: "They will be offered about £70 worth of free shares and, for every share purchased by the employee, the Government will provide a further two free shares, up to a maximum of £200 of free shares."

Employees will therefore have the opportunity to buy £370 worth of shares for £100, but will be required to keep them in trust for a minimum of two years. They will also be offered a further discount of 10 per cent on the public price of the shares up to a £2,000 ceiling.

There is no quota. All British Telecom employees who qualify will be offered the shares at the discount prices.

The Government intends to make the shareholding as wide as possible. It is the intention of the Government to sell 51 per cent of the telecommunications company by the autumn.

The offer to be made to telephone subscribers had not yet been concluded. There are over 20 million telephone subscribers in Britain who could qualify if the shares were offered to everyone. However they may be allocated on a "first come, first served" basis.

The international part of British Telecom is to be excluded from constraint on its tariff increases. About 15 per cent of its revenue and more than half its profits come from international traffic.

Leading article, page 17  
Kenneth Fleet, page 21

## Angola to free British hostages

Sixteen British hostages, kidnapped by UNITA forces in Angola two months ago, are to be freed next week, the Foreign Office said yesterday.

At a series of meetings in London with the Foreign Office, UNITA has agreed to release them after a visit by Sir John Leahy, a foreign office under-secretary, to the UNITA base at Jamba in southern Angola.

The hostages were captured when UNITA attacked a mining camp at Kafunfo in north-east Angola on February 22.

The Foreign Office said yesterday that Sir John's visit next week would lead to the immediate release of the Britons. The Portuguese wife of one of the hostages is expected to be released at the same time.

No firm date has been fixed for the visit by Sir John, the senior civil servant with responsibility for Africa.

The British hostages - together with 90 others including 12 women, five of them missionaries, and 19 children - were forced to trek 800 miles south to UNITA headquarters.

Nine months earlier, the UNITA leader, Dr Jonas Savimbi, had issued a warning - as a "goodwill gesture" - that the mine would be caught up in the civil war.

Seizing foreign workers, technicians and missionaries has become a frequent tactic in the struggle against the Marxist regime of President dos Santos.

Last week 89 other hostages were released, but Dr Savimbi always indicated that the Britons would be treated separately.

His condition was that a British Government official - UNITA insisted on a senior politician - go to Angola

## Esso holds down its petrol price

**By David Young, Energy Correspondent**

Esso, the leader in the British petrol market, has refused to follow its main competitors and raise the retail price of four-star by almost 4p.

With more than 20 per cent of the market, Esso has always aggressively defended its top position and led the recent round of price cutting. It has told its dealers that a price rise could not be justified.

Its decision leaves Shell, which has 30 per cent of the market, BP with about 15 per cent of the market and Texaco with an 8 per cent share, with prices which will now average 187p a gallon compared with the Esso average of 184.1p.

This week's round of price rises have been caused by the strength of the dollar against the pound.

## First pollen forecasting service is reprieved

**By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent**

The National Pollen and Hay Fever Bureau, set up last year as the world's first pollen forecasting service, has survived closure threats and will issue its first forecast for the summer on May 30.

The bureau seemed likely to close because of a cash shortage of about £35,000 following the decision to withdraw from sponsorship by Fisons Pharmaceuticals, which had provided most of the initial finance.

Six million hay fever sufferers in Britain are able to benefit from the information which the bureau provides, with the support of the Meteorological Office.

Its reprieve was announced yesterday, although a spokesman emphasized that there was still a need for £20,000 more. Fisons had continued sponsorship with other backers, including the Isle of Wight Asthma Society, the National Westminster Bank, local councils in Edinburgh and Rotherham and the Asthma Research Council.

The advance warning the bureau provides allows hay fever sufferers time to take medicines they need to cope with the following day.

## Coal convoy runs blockade and threatens alliance

**By Barrie Clement and David Young**

Convoys of coal lorries raced through a miners' blockade outside the Ravenscraig steel works at Motherwell yesterday and set the scene for a showdown between pitmen and steelworkers which could split the fragile "triple alliance" of coal, steel and rail unions.

As the unions' solidarity began to crumble, Mr Arthur Scargill, the miners' president, was in no mood to compromise with the National Coal Board and refused to lift picketing so that the board could fulfil a newly won contract with the Steel of Chicago - the first big export order for 10 years.

A sign of continuing grassroots militancy among Yorkshire miners came when 10,000 of "Arthur's red guards" massed outside the Harworth Colliery in Nottinghamshire. The pit worked on, but it was the biggest picket since the pitman's strike began eight weeks ago.

Potentially the most explosive scene, however, was at Ravenscraig where both the British Steel Corporation and the workers are adamant that the plant's "allowance" of one train load of coal a day should be doubled to ensure the safety and survival of the works.

Police were on "red alert" last night as several arrests were made and pickets began to mass. The lorries drove through the picket lines after Scottish colliers' leaders refused to allow more coal into the plant.

Mr Tom Brennan, the plant's union convener, estimated that the plant would need 184 lorries of coal every day if it were to receive the equivalent of two trainloads. The arrival of so many vehicles at the plant could lead to a policing problem and almost certain conflict.

Mr Brennan said: "Today we have failed to impress upon the miners our need for the extra coal. It is a very sad and daunting position that faces us now because we do not want to go outside the fraternity of the trade union movement."

But Mr Scargill's determination not to allow special "dispensations" was also underlined by his refusal to allow the movement of 175,000 tonnes of coke from the Durham coalfields to docks on the Tyne for shipment to Chicago.

The coke, which would be shipped in batches of 10,000 tonnes, has been in store in Durham for months while the board negotiated the contract. A letter of intent to supply another 250,000 tonnes for delivery next year has also been signed.

The board is keeping the value of the contract secret, but its salesmen did beat off a challenge from the Japanese to clinch the deal.

To meet the terms of the contract shipments from the Tyne will have to start leaving by the end of this month to allow the coke to be delivered before the St Lawrence Seaway freezes.

In a statement on the contract, Mr Scargill said: "The NCB can quite easily fulfil this new export order or any other it negotiates. All they have to do is withdraw the threat to close Britain's pits, including those in the north-east."

● The Labour Party, which is pledged to support the striking miners, issued an immediate and desperate appeal to the miners' union and the railwaymen to reverse what was described as "a serious mistake" (our Political Staff writes).

Mr Neil Kinnock the party leader, made no direct comment himself and last night's weekly meeting of the Shadow Cabinet discussed Ravenscraig only "briefly", as part of a wider discussion of the miners' dispute.

But some Shadow Cabinet members said privately that Mr Scargill must beware, having divided miner from miner, that he did not force a breach with the Labour Party.

During Commons questions, Mr Harry Ewing, a shadow spokesman, called for a reconsideration over coal for Ravenscraig.

Flying policemen, page 2

## Siege inquiry to study abuse of immunity

**By Philip Webster, Political Reporter**

The Foreign Office's policy of maintaining diplomatic relations with the Libyan Government despite the takeover last February of its embassy in London by people it acknowledged as revolutionaries is likely to be one of the issues covered in an investigation announced yesterday by the Commons Foreign Affairs Committee in the wake of the St James's Square siege.

The all-party committee, chaired by Sir Anthony Kershaw, Conservative MP for Stroud, is to carry out an urgent inquiry into diplomatic immunities and privileges and examine the Vienna Convention on diplomatic relations.

Because it accepts, however, that renegotiation of the convention could pose difficulties and would take time, the committee is also to consider the possibility of amending the Diplomatic Privileges Act of 1964.

Although Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, said in the Commons on Tuesday that he would welcome a study by the committee of the Vienna Convention, it is clear that the inquiry will go wider than some ministers would prefer.

Thatcher stand, page 6

### VICTORIA WINE

## MAY

### Wine of the month

# Grüne Kanne

## Liebfraumilch

A delicious example of Liebfraumilch, Germany's most popular white wine. Delicate, soft, medium-dry flavour, with a delightfully fragrant bouquet.

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# Teachers threat to upset exams as employers criticize disruptive action

By Colin Hughes

As local education authority employers criticized teachers yesterday for taking disruptive action throughout schools in England and Wales, one teachers' union reacted by threatening to disrupt pupils' examinations.

In Cambridge and Cambridgeshire, local authority officials warned teachers that any refusal to cover for absent colleagues, one of the main sanctions being taken, will lead to teachers' pay being docked.

The National Union of Teachers (NUT), the largest union with 335,000 members, reacted by saying it would "seriously consider" disrupting GCE O-level and CSE examinations by children in those areas this term.

In Hereford and Worcester, head teachers have been issued with a circular saying the education advisory officers will bring in supply and ancillary teachers to fill in where staff are refusing to cover.

In Kent head teachers have been authorized to bring in supervisors to organize school lunches where teachers are refusing to supervise dining rooms and break times.

A spokesman for NUT said:

"Wherever employers take this kind of attitude, we will escalate our action." Teachers would stop allowing timetable adjustments, such as extended "Continental days", which some authorities are introducing to circumvent the lack of lunchtime supervision.

Teachers would disrupt examinations by refusing to invigilate duties. Authorities can overcome the action by employing extra invigilators and filling halls with children from several schools.

The NUT received the first result in its ballot of members on continued strike action after the one-day national strike scheduled for next Wednesday. Members in the West Midlands voted 90 per cent in favour of rolling and selective strikes involving specific areas on different days.

Mr Geoffrey Morris, chief education officer at Cambridge, said teachers have contractual obligation to cover for absent colleagues, and head teachers had a "fundamental right" to deploy their staff as they thought fit.

Refusal to cover for another teacher's class was therefore a "mini strike", and pay could be docked. He admitted that most teachers' contracts were vague on whether they were bound to cover.

It now seems likely that some authorities will refuse to pay teachers where they are forced to close schools for an afternoon, a move which is likely to lead to stepped up action.

Several thousand pupils in Norfolk were sent home at lunchtime yesterday, because most children are brought by bus from outlying areas and cannot be transported home after the lunch break.

In Northamptonshire 2,000 women dinner staff warned yesterday that they will be laid off if the action continues, because kitchens are closing at lunchtime. At one school in York, Nunthorpe Grammar, the head teacher is supervising lunches for children receiving free meals, while others are sent home.

More than 500 children in Nottingham missed afternoon lessons yesterday, and 13,000 pupils at 79 schools missed school lunches. In Suffolk 5,000 children were sent home at lunchtime, but none of the county's 370 schools closed.

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## Flying policemen

One hundred and twenty-seven policemen from Hampshire settling on board a chartered Boeing 737 aircraft before taking off from Hurn airport in Bournemouth yesterday and (right) disembarking at East Midlands airport. They will go on duty today in Nottinghamshire, where heavy picketing is expected by miners.

Chief Constable John Dukes said: "The whole operation is

cost-effective. It means we can get the men there far quicker than by any other means. They will be more fresh and ready for work immediately."

Chief Inspector Peter Mann, heading the police contingent, said: "We do not know what our duties will be before we get there. But we will be sleeping in Nissan huts not far from the picket lines."

## Miners say port picket to continue

From our Correspondent Colchester

A further 38 people were arrested in the miners' picket line in Wivenhoe, north-east Essex, yesterday, bringing the total in the two days to more than 100. The largest picket to date at the port entrance attracted more than 250 miners and students yesterday.

The miners say they intend to keep up the pressure on what they regard as a running sore. Local residents who have been complaining for months about the passage of heavy lorries along the narrow streets are becoming incensed at the stepping up of imported European coal since the start of the miners' strike.

A total of 41 miners appeared before a special court in south Derbyshire yesterday charged with obstructing the highway. The men, most of whom live in the Sheffield and Chesterfield areas and whose ages range from 18 to 52, were on their way home after picketing the Cadley Hill colliery, near Swadincote.

They are alleged to have driven between 7.00 and 7.15 am on March 28 at 2 mph on the A38 at Mickleover, near Derby, and to have stopped on the carriageway. Four admitted the offence and had their cases adjourned until May 16 for sentence. They are allowed bail. The remainder pleaded not guilty and their cases were adjourned to a date to be fixed.

## 8,000 join biggest pit picket

By Craig Seton

Between 8,000 and 10,000 flying pickets descended on Harworth colliery, near Retford in Nottinghamshire yesterday in the largest single mass picket of the miners' dispute. Twenty-one miners were arrested in clashes with the police.

The pickets abandoned their vehicles in south Yorkshire and walked across the border to the colliery, using fields and minor roads to evade police road blocks in a new manoeuvre to put increasing pressure on miners still working in the traditionally moderate Nottinghamshire coalfield.

The National Coal Board estimated that about 8,000 pickets were involved, but Nottinghamshire police said "unprecedented numbers" reaching more than 10,000 had arrived.

Stones were thrown and scuffles broke out but the police said their presence was sufficient to allow the great majority of those miners who wanted to work to get into the pit.

Attendances at Nottinghamshire pits yesterday were reported to be at their usual high level - between 85 and 90 per cent. More than 250 pickets were reported at Welbeck colliery, another 120 at Thoresby and a further 100 at Sherwood colliery.

## Acas call to involve staff

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Introducing the service's annual report, Mr Lowry said: "Encouraging though some of the signs are, it would be misleading to conclude that there has yet been a permanent and radical change in our industrial relations."

Although last year was relatively free of strikes, there was a danger of the industrial relations atmosphere becoming "more combative", as groups of workers sought to "settle old scores" with a build up of frustration from a period of high unemployment and low wage settlement.

He gave a clear indication that he did not agree a long term industrial relations strategy based on the fear of unemployment was sufficient in itself.

Mr Lowry outlined two essential requirements for effective employee involvement as being a system of employee communication, and a process of consultation before decisions were taken which directly affected the interests of the employee. Acas also believed that where trade unions were recognized employee involvement schemes should be introduced with their support.

He dismissed the suggestion that in some cases courts might be empowered to conciliate in industrial disputes, and said that the best way forward was for disputes to be resolved by conciliation. "Judges should stick to judging and conciliators could be allowed to continue conciliating", the Acas chairman said.

The report raised doubts about the possibility of banning strikes in essential public services, which was mooted again this week by the Centre for Policy Studies, the Tory Party "Think Tank". The main problem would be finding an acceptable means of pay determination.

When he spent £4,180 on a single boxed set of soldiers from the collection formed by John Hanington made £84,479 at Phillips yesterday with only three lots left unsold. It is the largest collection ever sold at auction: about 6,000 individual figures were sold yesterday and the sale continues today. Enthusiasts had flown in from all over the world, including around 30 collectors from the United States.

The principal buyer was a lawyer from Texas who asked the auctioneers not to reveal his name because he was worried that his wife might discover how much he had spent. He set a new auction price record when he spent £4,180 on a single boxed set of soldiers.

It was a set of nine Royal Fusiliers, the most famous rarity from Britain, possibly even dating from 1893, the year the firm was founded and began manufacture. It is the only known boxed set to survive and originally cost two shillings. Phillips had estimated £800 to £1,200 on the lot.

The same buyer spent £3,520 (estimate £1,500 to £2,000) on a Charnierhouse Sand Bag encampment made up by a firm called CET & Co about 1910 using 101 Britains and other soldiers.

At Sotheby's a new auction

## Safe-seat Tory gives promise to voters

By David Cross

It would be a brave man indeed who predicted anything short of a landslide victory for Mrs Virginia Bottomley, the young and articulate wife of Mr Peter Bottomley, Conservative MP for Epsom, in today's by-election in Surrey, South-West, despite Liberal claims of widespread disenchantment among Conservative voters.

Mrs Bottomley told a final press conference yesterday: "Throughout this campaign I have tried to convince the electorate that I am a person who will be an effective constituency MP for some one who will work on their behalf rather than on her own."

During the final days of the campaign, fears about health service cuts, in particular, have featured prominently in voters' minds and Mrs Bottomley has threatened to look over the shoulders of the health authorities when any of the area's hospitals are endangered.

"I am a firm believer in maximum efficiency in the National Health Service", she says, "but as an MP I will oppose any move to reduce local services unless I am convinced it will help create a more cost-effective service and that no unacceptable inconvenience will be caused."

The campaign of the Alliance candidate, Mr Gavin Scott, is retreating optimistically. "Our figures show our candidate is running neck and neck with the Conservatives and really can win", Mr Brian Tucker, the Liberal-SDP agent, said.

Mrs Barbara Roche, a barrister and trade union activist, could well boost Labour's vote from its general election rock-bottom level. Even her Conservative opponents concede she has fought a worthy, albeit thankless, campaign.

General Election: Epsom, Surrey, May 3, 1984. Mrs Bottomley, Conservative, 14,381; Mr Scott, Alliance, 14,381; Mrs Roche, Labour, 14,381. By tonight a by-election which has created as much national excitement as grass growing will be over and Mrs Anna Chwyd will be the Labour MP for Cynon Valley (Tim Jones writes from Aberdare).

It is probably the inevitability which has created such a lethargy and has kept away any political commentator of note. General Election: Epsom, Surrey, May 3, 1984. Mrs Bottomley, Conservative, 14,381; Mr Scott, Alliance, 14,381; Mrs Roche, Labour, 14,381.

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## Labour loses slim lead in Nottingham

By Hugh Clayton Local Government Correspondent

The Sheriff of Nottingham has helped to reduce the Labour Party's control of city politics. The sheriff in question is not the celebrated medieval opponent of Robin Hood, but Mr Dennis Birkinshaw, who has decided to leave the majority Labour group on the city council and become an independent.

While most cities have a Lord Mayor, Nottingham has kept the office of Sheriff as well. Nottingham is not one of the dozens of cities in which Labour will try to increase its membership in today's local government elections.

Nottingham began the year with 28 Labour councillors and 27 Conservatives. The death of Mr Arthur Wright, the Lord Mayor, means that there will be a by-election soon in the Bulwell West ward which Mr Wright held with a large majority. Mr Birkinshaw's defection from Labour leaves him with the deciding vote in the council chamber.

But if Labour loses control of Nottingham, it hopes to regain it in many of the 219 council wards for which voting will start at eight this morning. Elections are being held in some of the middle tier of authorities which administer cities and rural districts.

Left-wing union "fixers" yesterday began a frantic search for a credible candidate to run for the general secretaryship of the Trades Union Congress which Mr Len Murray is to give up in four months' time.

Their choice among internal candidates is expected to be Mr Peter Jacques, Secretary of the Social Insurance and Industrial Welfare department.

Of union leaders who might compete, Mr Rodney Bickers, General Secretary of the National Union of Public Employees, is the most likely contender to pick up militant unions' votes. Two main centre-right candidates emerging are Mr Gavin Laird, General Secretary of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers and Mr David Lea, Assistant General Secretary of the TUC.

## EEC raises subsidy to upland farmers

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

More than 28,000 upland farmers will benefit from higher subsidies as the result of the EEC agreement to designate a further three million acres of the United Kingdom as "less favoured areas".

Implementation of the agreement was announced in the Commons yesterday by Mr Michael Jopling, Minister of Agriculture. It will affect parts of Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, and northern and south-west England.

Farmers in the newly designated areas will benefit from subsidies known as hill livestock compensatory allowances, of £44.50 a cow and either £6.25 or £4.25 a breeding ewe. They will also be entitled to capital grants for such things as hedge planting, new buildings, repair and construction of stone walls, and drainage and waste disposal works.

Mr Jopling announced that the suckler cow premium, an incentive to owners of beef herds, would be doubled to £24.74. The extra cost is estimated at £9.2m of which the European Commission pays 75 per cent (£7.5m) and the rest (£1.7m) is paid by the Government.

A National Farmers' Union delegation yesterday met Mr John MacGregor, Minister of State at the Ministry of Agriculture, and Mrs Peggy Fenner, Parliamentary Secretary, to voice objections to compulsory retirement for tenant farmers.

Mr Jopling said that the Government was committed to the principle of a cross-Channel cable with the capacity for carrying 2,000 megawatts of electricity, the equivalent of the supply from one of the largest power stations, has reached the halfway stage.

However the project, which includes large converter stations at Sellindge in Kent, 12 miles from the coastal landing point near Folkestone and at Les Mandarins in Normandy, a similar distance from Caen, will cost about £600m - half the price of a coal-fired station or a quarter of a nuclear station.

The purpose of the joint venture between the Central Electricity Generating Board and Electricité de France is to exchange electricity at those times when one system is producing power more economically than the other.

The enterprise involves some important developments in engineering. A huge submarine robot weighing 176 tons and known as the rock trenching machine, designed by the electricity board and Land & Marine Engineering, took 12 weeks to claw out two trenches, each nearly 30 miles long, 5ft deep and 2ft wide.

Ultimately the link will comprise four trenches. The French will begin digging the other pair next month. The robot trenching machine, which has a cutting wheel 11ft in diameter, will by then have excavated about 500,000 tons of chalk, rock and clay.

The world's longest cables, continuous lengths of 31 miles each, are being made for the link at a special factory built by Pirelli General at Southampton Water. Each cable length, which is 4ins in diameter and consists of a central copper conductor insulated with oil-impregnated paper and protected by sheaths of lead and polyethylene plastic, weighs 1,700 tons.

Each trench will carry a pair of cables, one positive and one negative, for transmitting electricity in direct current form; hence the need for the converter stations to turn it back into alternating current to feed into the grid. The electromagnetic effects of the positive and negative cables will cancel each other out and so prevent interference with the magnetic compasses of any ships passing overhead, according to the electricity board.

The link is expected to begin partial operation in the autumn of next year and to be fully operational a year later. The intention is for the two electricity systems to support each other in periods of high demand.

Yet the need for the cable highlights one of the fundamental difficulties of the electricity supply industry. Since electricity is not really a fuel such as coal, oil or uranium, it can be stored only in a chemical form in batteries, or as potential energy in pumped storage schemes in which off-peak electricity is used to top up a reservoir providing peak hydro-electric power.

The world's longest cables,

## Cross-Channel cable to exchange power

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Construction of a cross-Channel cable with the capacity for carrying 2,000 megawatts of electricity, the equivalent of the supply from one of the largest power stations, has reached the halfway stage.

However the project, which includes large converter stations at Sellindge in Kent, 12 miles from the coastal landing point near Folkestone and at Les Mandarins in Normandy, a similar distance from Caen, will cost about £600m - half the price of a coal-fired station or a quarter of a nuclear station.

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## Seventh handgun found in bureau

By Michael Horsnell

Police yesterday discovered a small Italian automatic pistol in the abandoned Libyan People's Bureau on the third day of the inch-by-inch search of the building.

A remnant of a large arsenal which is believed to have disappeared from the bureau in diplomatic baggage last week, it was the seventh handgun to be found. Most of them were in locked safes, the police said. They called in experts from the security firm Chubb and Son to find the combination.

Details of weapons found, and evidence of shooting from a first-floor window at the 70-room Georgian building were given by Commander William Huckleby of the anti-terrorist squad at the resumed inquest into Policewoman Yvonne Fletcher's death.

He told the inquest, which was adjourned until June 9, that the most significant find was a 9mm parabellum cartridge case on the floor in the corner of a first-floor room.

It lay beside the window at which eye witnesses saw an automatic weapon being fired when WPC Fletcher, aged 25, was shot in the back. On the carpet underneath the window ballistic residues were found indicating a weapon had been fired from it.

Requesting an adjournment so he could furnish as much evidence as possible, Mr Huckleby said the search was continuing and forensic tests had to be completed. The Italian handgun found yesterday was a 6.55mm Armi Gallesi Brescia Brevevo in a leather holster and containing an empty magazine. No ammunition for it had yet been found.

A Saudi Arabian observer was present when the weapon, described by police as like a gas gun, was uncovered. "Meanwhile the Foreign Office rejected as 'totally unfounded' an allegation by Mr Ibrahim Bishari of the Libyan Foreign Liaison Bureau that police had planted the cartridge."

At a news conference in Tripoli Colonel Gaddafi accused the British Government of "unprecedented barbarism" and alleged that British police had planted weapons in the former bureau. "Libya would hurt Britain and any other countries harbouring Libyan terrorists 'whenever we can' and said that practical aid to the IRA was now 'an urgent matter'."

Thatcher on siege, page 6

Thatcher on siege, page 6

Thatcher on siege, page 6

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## MPs seek action against road tax dodgers who cost country £174m

Heavier fines and more prosecutions for road tax dodgers were urged yesterday by an influential all-party Commons committee. MPs want tough action against the millions driving untaxed cars who may be costing Britain more than £170m in lost revenue.

The MPs believe that poor detection rates and low fines are encouraging drivers to resist paying the annual £90 vehicle excise licence. The public Accounts Committee report says the last government estimate in 1977-78 suggested that there were two million untaxed cars on the roads. That would

have meant a loss of between £139m and £174m in revenue last year.

But the MPs say that there could be even more licence dodging than the last survey showed as more than a million cars without road tax discs were reported last year alone.

The committee was concerned that the Department of Transport did not follow up almost a quarter of the offences reported last year.

MPs were also "disturbed" that the average fine was £33.60 when the maximum can be £425.

Detection is not a deterrent

### Talks to beat car fraud

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Operators of large fleets of cars may be asked to feed mileage records into the computer at the Swansea Vehicle Licensing Centre in a new attempt to halt the growing practice of winding back kilometre meters in second-hand cars.

Most cars treated in this way are high-mileage vehicles sold to

the motor trade by fleet operators.

A licensing centre spokesman said yesterday: "We are involved in discussions with representatives of local authorities and the Department of Trade to see what we can do to assist trading standards departments around the country."

unless "penalties are seen to present a serious threat to potential offenders".

The report adds: "We should have expected the penalties administered to reflect much more closely the serious view of this form of dishonesty which Parliament has implied in laying down the maximum fine."

"We hope the Government will take note of our view that the present average level of fines imposed on evaders is inadequate as a punishment and a deterrent."

The committee welcome a proposed new Department of Transport study into the scale of evasion. It said that there is still "a major problem" the MPs want further consideration of alternative methods of taxation.

Mr Geoffrey Norman, secretary of the Magistrates' Association, said that magistrates accepted that the penalty for not having a licence should be a deterrent and that the current penalty, based on the amount of duty lost plus a fine of twice that sum, was adequate (Our Legal Affairs Correspondent, Frances Gibb, writes).

## £22m boost for Goldcrest

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

Goldcrest, the independent British film company, yesterday announced a £22m capital-raising agreement which will make it the most productive domestic cinema group in Britain.

Mr James Lee, Goldcrest's chairman, said that he expected the company to produce five big-budget feature films and 10 cheaper titles over the next three years. In addition, the company intends to concentrate on producing television drama "mini-series" such as its recent version of the *Far Pavilions*, which was bought by America's Home Box Office.

The reorganization of Goldcrest's finances spells a distancing of the company's relationship with its parent, Pearson Longman, the media empire which embraces the *Financial Times* and Penguin Books.

Goldcrest Films and Television will cease to be a subsidiary of Pearson Longman, though Pearson, with 41 per cent, will be its largest shareholder, with the National Coal Board Pension Fund having 10 per cent and Electra Investment Trust 5.5 per cent.

Mr Lee said: "Our financial reorganization and fund-raising

have demonstrated the confidence that investors have in the future of the British film industry, and the strategy we are now pursuing at Goldcrest. This is despite recent changes in government support for the industry."

The company's reorganization will involve the formation of a new company, Goldcrest Holdings, with a share value of £36.6m. The additional £22m of new capital comes from existing and new shareholders, who have subscribed £21m, and a banking facility from the Midland Bank of £10m.



Nose for posy: The Queen in Liverpool to open the International Garden Festival, receiving a welcome from Goldie, the BBC 'Blue Peter' pet labrador, who is with the show's presenter, Simon Groom.

## Legal chief supports solicitors' advertising

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Solicitors must be allowed to advertise their services and costs if they are to retain an adequate share of conveyancing work, Lord Benson, chairman of the Royal Commission on Legal Services, said yesterday.

The profession could not "buck the tide of public opinion". The public was entitled to shop around and know what services were on offer and their cost, he told a meeting at Maidstone of the Kent Law Society.

Lord Benson, who was giving the Keith Tucker memorial lecture, urged a number of important reforms to the profession which he said must be made if the Government was not to impose changes unilaterally and set up a "national legal service".

Since the Royal Commission reported in 1979, not enough had been done to keep legal services up to date. "I stress that if a profession is to retain the respect of the community, it must keep just ahead of public thought and opinion. If it falls behind it will encounter trouble."

On advertising, he said that "crude, blatant advertising" could and should be controlled by the Law Society. "But if you are unwilling voluntarily to give the public essential information about yourselves in a dignified way, I think you will lose ground with both the Government and the public."

Lord Benson, former adviser to the governor of the Bank of England, said that the opening up of conveyancing would undoubtedly hurt the smaller provincial and country practices. Just under 60 per cent of firms in England and Wales were sole practitioners or two-partner ones.

He urged that firms expand in size by merger to meet the conveyancing challenge.

## US firm to aid buyers in computer shopscheme

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

The United States microcomputer manufacturer, Tandy, has launched a novel retailing scheme in Britain giving financial backup to potential owners of high street computer shops.

The company, which has 128 ordinary retail outlets in Britain, has about 600 in the US, 100 in Canada and more than 40 in Australia operating under the scheme.

It stipulates that the premises be owned by Tandy while the partner pays for half the stock. After the deduction of overheads from the profits, the remainder is shared equally between the two partners.

## Thief killed woman who helped him

From Our Correspondent, Winchester

Miss Karina Bigg-Wither, aged 26, was murdered by a youth whom she had allowed to use her annex at her family's home in Dogmersfield, Hampshire, the previous night.

Jan Haywood, aged 19, an unemployed labourer, killed her when she disturbed him stealing £3,000 worth of goods from the house. After killing her he returned for more property.

Miss Bigg-Wither's father accidentally found her dead in the garden the next day. She had been mutilated with a paratrooper's machete.

At Winchester Crown Court yesterday, Haywood was jailed for life for the murder.

Mr David Owen-Thomas, QC, for the prosecution, said of Miss Bigg-Wither: "She was a young woman who gave a helping hand to people less fortunate than herself."

## Board changes as TV-am catches up

By Our Arts Correspondent

TV-am, the commercial television breakfast station, faces more managerial changes two months after a last-ditch agreement among its backers saved it from collapse.

Lord Marsh, the former Labour minister, is understood to be about to resign as chairman, a post he has held since Peter Jay was dismissed.

TV-am refused to comment yesterday but the Independent Broadcasting Authority is thought to be considering a move to make Mr Bruce Gyngell, an associate of the Australian media tycoon Mr Kerry Packer, the new managing director.

Mr Packer's Consolidated Press holds 23 per cent of TV-am's shares, while Fleet Holdings, publishers of Express Newspapers, has the majority stake of 30 per cent.

Mr Timothy Aitken, the present managing director whose family company once held the majority stake but now has about 16 per cent, is expected to become the new chairman.

There is speculation that Mr Packer's company wants to seek control of TV-am. That could fall foul of the authority's rules barring foreign companies from holding controlling stakes in British television stations.

## Racehorse 'had false papers'

Two of the men accused of switching racehorses won £20,000 between them from a betting coup before the race, York Crown Court was told yesterday.

Kenneth Richardson, aged 47, a racehorse owner, set up agents all over the country to place bets on a "ringer" horse, it was alleged. He arranged for more than £2,000 to be put on Flockton Grey.

The jury was told that Mr Richardson, together with racing manager Colin Mathison, aged 46, and Peter Boddy, aged 39, a driver, staged an ingenious horse switch.

Mr Geoffrey Rivlin QC for the prosecution told the court that the men had arranged for the horse, Good Hand, to be issued with false racing papers in the name of Flockton Grey by producing the identification papers belonging to an unnamed two-year-old at a race in Leicester in 1982.

The jury was told that the police discovered the winning horse in a secluded field in Glaisdale, near Whitby, north Yorkshire.

The hearing continues today.

## Contempt move against paper

The Attorney General, Sir Michael Havers, was given permission in the High Court yesterday to bring contempt of court proceedings against the Sun newspaper. Lord Justice Robert Goff and Mr Justice Mann were told in the Divisional Court that the alleged contempt occurred during a trial of Tran Gibson and his wife Julie at Birmingham Crown Court in December.

They faced charges concerning injuries to their daughter Amanda, aged five weeks. Mr Simon Brown, for the Attorney General, said that during the trial a front page headline in the paper said: "baby was blinded by Dad."

## Marking Greenwich time

The use of Greenwich as the international base for the measurement of time and longitude for the past 100 years will be marked by the Post Office with the issue of four special stamps on June 26.

In four stages, the stamps illustrate Greenwich's world-wide importance.

Each stamp features the Meridian represented by a red line. The designs are by Mr Howard Waller, aged 34, a freelance consultant from Manor House, north London.



## Jury told of credit card sex

Sex clubs in the West End of London often allowed customers to pay for sexual "extras" with credit cards, a jury was told yesterday.

The credit card companies had no idea about this at the time, Mr Vivian Robinson, for the prosecution, said at the opening of the trial of six men on vice and fraud charges at the Central Criminal Court.

He said that a special police squad posed at "punters" to try to find the controllers of organized prostitution in Soho's clubland.

The officers never indulged in full sexual intercourse with any of the girls operating in six West End sex clubs. They always made their excuses and left.

It would be mainly their evidence that the jury would hear. None of the girls who allegedly offered their sexual services to club customers would be called as witnesses.

The six have all denied

conspiring together to live off the earnings of prostitution. Mr Robinson said that a special police squad discovered prostitution was going on at six clubs and it was apparent that a syndicate of people were involved in its organization.

"The picture is that services from partial sexual gratification to full sex were offered and this was with the full knowledge of those concerned in the management and control of the clubs."

Customers once inside would be asked for an additional fee "that could range from £5 to as much as £50 - depending on the punter's apparent affluence."

The customer would then be asked if he wanted company. "He usually said yes and was told the girl must be bought a drink which would set him back another £5."

Then came the offer of sex, and the houses would offer a range of services from £30, to full sex for at least £60.

He then described the roles allegedly played by each of the

six men. John Agius, aged 37, of Queensdale Walk, Notting Hill, west London, was "the principal figure in this organization. He was a prominent person in Soho, having substantial business and property interests and ran things from a first floor office in Great Windmill Street."

Douglas Gilbert, aged 46, of Greek Street, Soho, was his right-hand man, his general manager, Mr Robinson alleged.

The four other defendants were also important figures. They are: Vincent Callegia, aged 32, of Coldharbour Lane, Brixton, south-east London; Jon Jukias, aged 34, of Sinclair Road, Kensington, west London; Lewis Ciancio, aged 47, of Hall Road, St John's Wood, north-west London; and Francis Bonett, aged 38, of Copford Road, Woodford, north-east London.

The six have also denied conspiring to defraud credit card companies.

The trial continues today.

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N7 are giving you a chance to try out their Skin Care. From April 24th 1984, while stocks last, trial sizes of the above products are available for just 55p each item.

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# PARLIAMENT May 2 1984

## Labour plea over Ravenscraig trains

### COAL DISPUTE

The Opposition asked miners and railwaymen to reconsider the decision made earlier in the day in Edinburgh not to allow more than one trainload of coal a day to be supplied to the Ravenscraig steel-works in Scotland.

This plea was made during question time in the Commons by one of their spokesmen on trade and industry, Mr Harry Ewing, a former Scottish junior minister, and it was welcomed by Mr Norman Lamont, Minister of State for Trade, who indicated during the debate in the House that the Government was taking the view that Ravenscraig and

the Scottish steel industry was just as important to the Scottish miners and railway workers as it was to the Scottish steel industry.

Ravenscraig, which cannot survive on one trainload of coal a day, was the only steel-works in Scotland. It was the only one in the world, Mr Ewing said, that was not a day's work away from closure.

Mr Lamont said he hoped Mr Ewing would repeat that loud and clear many times and outside the House.

Mr James Wallace (Orkney and Shetland, Lib) asked what steps, if any, the Government proposed to take to ensure coal supplies reached Ravenscraig.

Mr Lamont said that at a meeting in Edinburgh this morning coal and the railway workers unions rejected strong pressure from the Scottish steel unions to reconsider last week's decision.

The steel unions said this would leave the plant doing little more than ticking over and they backed the BSC management plan for using alternative transport as an alternative. Arrangements for using lorries are being made at present.

Earlier, Mr Lamont said crude steel production in Britain in 1983 was 15m tonnes, compared with 17.5m in 1973 and 20.5m in 1978.

Mr Peter Hain (Wentworth, Lab) said that was a good record, but there was no further contraction of the steel industry.

Mr Lamont said he was surprised he makes no mention of the decline in steel production under the Labour Government. There was a recovery in steel in 1983, he said, but it was not in the EEC, it declined by 7 per cent.

France has cut back by 5m tonnes, Germany by 5.5m tonnes, Italy by 5.5m tonnes and Britain by some 4m tonnes.

Mr Richard Hoggart (Glasgow and Southside, Lab) said plans for Ravenscraig, Southside and Port Talbot were being put at risk by the coal dispute.

Mr Lamont said he was not with him. 7 notes that Mr Hoggart made no note about their friends on the picket line threatening these plants.

Mr John Ward (Poole, C) said the Government was being put at risk by the activities of the miners. There are plenty of competitors on the continent ready to snap up this market.

Mr Lamont said he is right. The longer the damage goes on, the more the prospects of BSC are going to be damaged. There can be no escaping that fact.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dick (Birmingham, Selby, C) said there is a danger of a dispute so politically motivated, goes on to say that the recovery that the Government has worked so hard to bring about.

Mr Lamont said he is right. CBI surveys indicate that the confidence of manufacturing is now high. It would be endangered by a prolonged mining strike.

● The Government did not envisage any need for compulsory redundancy to achieve the proposed 10 per cent fall in the manpower of the National Coal Board over the next 12 months, the Lord of the Admiralty, Secretary of State for Energy, said during questions in the House of Lords.

## British Telecom now ready for late autumn flotation

### PRIVATIZATION

Work was on schedule for the flotation of British Telecom as a public liability company in the late autumn, Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said in Commons yesterday. It was proposed, he made clear, to sell 51 per cent of the ordinary shares to the public, but the Government would retain a substantial financial stake in the company. This was mainly in the form of debentures.

He outlined proposals which would allow employees to buy shares at preferential rates and said the Government intended to offer incentives to telephone subscribers.

Mr Tebbit said: We have concluded that the initial debt of the company to the Government should be in the form of debentures with a capital value of £2.50m, carrying interest at between 12 1/2 per cent and 13 1/2 per cent. The Government will assign sufficient of these debentures to the residual statutory corporation to enable it to meet the debt of covenant obligation to the BT and Post Office Staff Superannuation Schemes as required by the Telecommunications Act 1982.

BT plc will also issue to the Government preference shares to the value of £750m. These preference shares carrying a gross dividend of 11 1/2 per cent will be non-voting and redeemable at BT's option in any case after 30 to 35 years. Apart from BT's continuing overseas and short-term borrowing, the remainder of the company's assets will be financed by ordinary shares and reserves.

Turning to BT's future operating environment, we announced last year that the tariff increases on some of BT's services should be kept below the rate of inflation. We have now concluded that the services concerned will include local calls, business and residential rentals and trunk calls. The constraint will apply for five years to a weighted average of these services. Its level will be RPI minus three that is 3 percentage points less than the increase in retail prices generally over the preceding year.

We are satisfied that this will reassure BT's customers while allowing BT to adjust tariffs on these services to reflect market demands. The board of BT has given the Government an assurance that BT plc intends during the same period that the level of its residential rental charges will be held within a ceiling of 2 per cent over RPI; and that they further intend during that period to continue to give rebates to long-term, broadly comparable, financial effect to the present scheme.

Details of the operation of the RPI minus X provision will be set out in the BT licence which will be laid before Parliament soon.

The Government intends that the BT flotation should provide an opportunity to encourage wider share ownership by both the public and employees of the company.

Employees who work at least 16 hours per week for BT and who have been in continuous employment with BT from April 2, 1984 until a date shortly before the flotation will benefit from a special scheme.

They will be offered about £70-worth of free shares and, for every share purchased by the employee, the Government will provide a further two free shares, up to a maximum of £200 of free shares for £100 of purchased shares. Employees will therefore have the opportunity to acquire about £370-worth of shares for an investment of about £100. As in past sales, these shares will have to be vested in a trust for a minimum of two years.

In addition a discount of 10 per cent off the public offer price will be offered to all employees at the time of flotation on purchases of up to £2,000-worth of shares, provided that they are held for a specified period.

Further, we have decided to offer special incentives to telephone subscribers. One possibility would be the form of vouchers which could be used to offset part of the cost of quarterly telephone bills for a subsequent period. Details will be announced closer to the flotation.

As a result of these measures we are confident that very many of BT's employees and customers will become shareholders in BT plc. The financial framework for BT plc is now set and work on the flotation is on schedule for a late autumn launch.

Mr Peter Shore, chief Opposition spokesman on trade and industry, said the statement illustrated the complexity as well as the folly of attempting to privatize this large, profitable, extremely innovative and successful public enterprise.

Can he confirm (he asked) that the arrangements for the allocation of debentures will fully safeguard existing pension rights? Taking account of the sums involved, what is his estimate of the flotation of equity shares?

Given the previous experience of attempts to make privatization popular by dispersing shares to existing employees, is he not aware that 84 per cent of all allocations in this form have been disposed of by the recipients within one week?

He has said nothing about the size of the issue of equity issue he is in mind, nor about the cost. Can he deny reports that have appeared in *The Sunday Times* this week that £30m is being allocated for the promotion, through advertising, of the public awareness of this forthcoming issue?

Can he also deny that the brokerage fees have been estimated at £60m? Sums of this kind for a wholly unnecessary enterprise are indeed a scandal.

Mr Tebbit: Regarding pension rights, he will remember this relates to a shortfall in the pension fund. In effect, which dates back some years and concerns the particular investments made in past years which are not providing sufficient yield to cover all the obligations.

What will happen is that sufficient of the debentures will be transferred to the fund to ensure in the public awareness of this forthcoming issue?

Can he also deny that the brokerage fees have been estimated at £60m? Sums of this kind for a wholly unnecessary enterprise are indeed a scandal.

Mr Tebbit: I do not lose too much sleep about the prospect of a future Labour Government. In a further reply, he said the future of capital performance of the company would consist of £2.750m of Government debentures; of foreign loans and other such items, £750m; of preference shares of £750m and reserves of £4.712m. That made £8.962m.

Mr Robin Corbett (Birmingham, Edingburgh, Lab) said small and independent grocers in rural and inner city areas faced problems because they got much smaller discounts than the multiples. They had to trade at a disadvantage.

Mr Fletcher said concern had been expressed to the Director General of Fair Trading that the large multiple retailers might be abusing their

monopoly power. So far no such complaint has been made to him (Mr Fletcher). Food manufacturers and others had been invited to give evidence to the Director General for his consideration of the matter.

On rural areas and elderly people, the Secretary of State for the Environment (Mr Patrick Jenkin) was making a special study of these problems.

Mr Michael Grylls (Surrey North, C) said he was looking for a whitewash report from the Commission about these unfair practices. Organizations representing smaller retailers were looking to the Government to remove the tilt against them in these unfair discounts. If there was no action by this Government, nobody would take any.

Mr Fletcher: He presumes there are unfair practices. The Director General will be pleased to receive any evidence.

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regain his manners over the next 20 years.

Immediately following questions the Speaker asked Mr Dalyell to withdraw the remark he made about the Prime Minister.

Mr Dalyell: I was chided by Mr Tebbit for having got the constituency wrong, which is an attack on the Table Office.

The Speaker: This is as may be and I will deal with that in a minute, but I am asking him now to withdraw that remark.

Mr Dalyell: I said by implication that Mr Thatcher was lying and there is proof and evidence for it.

The Speaker: I very much regret, but I have to warn Mr Dalyell that if he persists in refusing to obey my order I shall be forced to take other action. I do not want to do that. Will he now withdraw that remark?

Mr Dalyell: There are references I can give from Hansard by implication Mr Parkinson said...

The Speaker: I am not interested in the implications. I am interested in the fact that Mr Dalyell has made a statement which is a lie. That is something which Mr Dalyell well knows is a lie. I must ask him to withdraw at once.

Mr Dalyell: What Mr Parkinson said by implication suggests that Mrs Thatcher is lying...

The Speaker: I must say to Mr Dalyell, I would be grateful if he would help me in this. If he does persist I shall be forced to name him. That is something I should have the greatest reluctance to do.

I must ask him please to withdraw the remark that Mrs Thatcher was lying. I do not propose to have to name him. This is his last warning.

Mr Dalyell: It is the MP for Hereford... (shouts of "name him, name him")

The Speaker: I give Mr Dalyell one more warning. Will he withdraw that remark?

Mr Dalyell: It is a matter of fact...

The Speaker: I name Mr Tam Dalyell and ask the Leader of the House to move the appropriate motion.

Mr John Biffin, Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House of Commons: I beg to move that Mr Tam Dalyell be suspended from the service of the House.

When the vote in favour of Mr Dalyell's suspension was read out there were shouts of "Shame" and "Disgrace" from Labour MPs and Mr David Wileby (Carmarthen, Pl C) called: You cannot tell the truth in this place.

Mr Harry Greenwood (Ealing North, C) was given leave to bring in the Glue Abuse (Prevention) Bill, which would require makers of glue to add an agent to make it repellent.

He said in 1983 there were 57 deaths caused by glue sniffing, but this figure gave no more than a minute insight into the scale of the problem.

The Bill was given its first reading.

Preliminary indications are that 1983 was the best year ever for investment in Northern Ireland, Mr Norman Lamont, Minister of State for Trade and Industry, said during Commons questions.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, moved a Government amendment to restrict the fitting of contact lenses to registered opticians and medical practitioners. The clause would also allow fitting to be done by medical students as part of a course of instruction or an examination. Those training as opticians would also be able to do fittings according to certain rules.

Mr Clarke said the change would meet universal agreement within the optical profession. The existing law on fitting was not altogether satisfactory. It was desirable for the safety of patients that fitting be done by someone properly qualified rather than having qualified people merely supervising someone else.

Further Government new clauses to extend the protection of title given to people with particular qualifications and to up-date and expand the disciplinary powers of the General Optical Council were also agreed to.

## Bill to state who can fit contact lenses

### DHSS BILL

A change in the law on the fitting of contact lenses was approved during the report stage in the Commons of the Health and Social Security Bill.

The Bill amends the Opticians Act 1958 on the supply of spectacles and contact lenses and, among other provisions, changes the law on social security, statutory sick pay and contract-out occupational pension schemes.

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Commons (2.30): Finance (No 2) Bill, committed, third day.

Lords (3): Rating and Valuation (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill, committed, first day.

## Talks on scented erasers

### QUESTIONS

Informal consultation on the operation of the Scented Erasers (Safety) Order was already underway and a meeting between trade associations and officials of the Department of Trade and Industry would take place on May 10, Mr Alex Fletcher, Under Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said in Commons yesterday.

He continued: I am considering the need to make regulations covering this sort of product on a permanent basis. Meanwhile the order remains in force until January 30, 1985.

There will be full consultation with all interested organizations representing suppliers, consumers, enforcement authorities, medical experts and others before any draft regulations are laid before the House.

Mr Edward Taylor (Southend East, C) said the original order had been introduced without credible evidence of danger. It had caused grave damage to many small firms including some established with Government assistance. It would be wiser to withdraw the order while consultations proceed.

Mr Fletcher: The advice we are getting is not one-sided. We are getting advice, not least from local authorities, saying the present order is not strong enough. We must take account of that, too.

Sir Geoffrey Finsberg (Hampstead and Highgate, C) said one of his constituents had genuinely imported and placed a contract for goods on an irrevocable basis. He stood to lose a lot of money.

This is not the sort of behaviour I

would expect a Conservative Government to condone (he said).

Mr Fletcher said there were no provisions to provide compensation but countries such as Denmark, France, Germany and Ireland had similar regulations to protect consumers against such products.

Mr Alan Williams, an opposition spokesman on trade and industry, said that in the committee which looked at the order there had been a unanimity in agreeing that the order was an absurdity. Knowing all the time that this defective order was in force, firms whose products represented no hazard were suffering unnecessary financial loss. There should be action before the end of the year.

Mr Fletcher replied that proposals would be brought before the House as soon as possible. Consultations had to take place to ensure the order, as amended, would be understood by MPs.

traditional style of design. There is likely to be a hostile reaction to this conception if it ever appears on our streets.

Mr Trippier: The existing tax is popular, but the design is some 25 years old. The company believe that the new tax design will be equally well received.

Mr George Park (Coventry North East, Lab) said the public should decide whether they want the maintenance of an ancient monument or the creation of a form of transport catering for the people who need it most, such as the disabled.

Mr Trippier: I agree. Public consultation on the new tax will be reflected in many of the new features which will be heard to a lot of people, including the disabled.

## Small traders want action on discounts

Mr Alex Fletcher, Under Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said he had not received any evidence that large retailers might be abusing their monopoly power over discounts.

He stated in the Commons that the Director General of Fair Trading was finalising the terms of reference for his fact-finding exercise to update some of the information in the Monopolies and Mergers Commission report of 1981 on discounts to retailers.

He is unlikely (he added) to have the full results of the exercise before the end of this year.

Mr Robin Corbett (Birmingham, Edingburgh, Lab) said small and independent grocers in rural and inner city areas faced problems because they got much smaller discounts than the multiples. They had to trade at a disadvantage.

Mr Fletcher said concern had been expressed to the Director General of Fair Trading that the large multiple retailers might be abusing their

monopoly power. So far no such complaint has been made to him (Mr Fletcher). Food manufacturers and others had been invited to give evidence to the Director General for his consideration of the matter.

On rural areas and elderly people, the Secretary of State for the Environment (Mr Patrick Jenkin) was making a special study of these problems.

Mr Michael Grylls (Surrey North, C) said he was looking for a whitewash report from the Commission about these unfair practices. Organizations representing smaller retailers were looking to the Government to remove the tilt against them in these unfair discounts. If there was no action by this Government, nobody would take any.

Mr Fletcher: He presumes there are unfair practices. The Director General will be pleased to receive any evidence.

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### New Ireland Forum

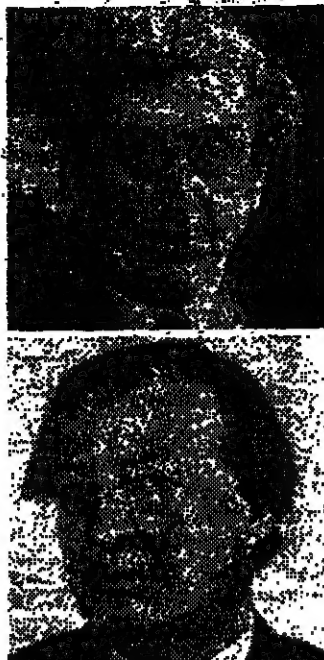
## Shared responsibility 'to restore stability'

The following are extracts from the New Ireland Forum report published yesterday.

Despite the British Government's stated intentions of obtaining political consensus in Northern Ireland, the only policy that is implemented in practice is one of crisis management, that is, the effort to contain violence through emergency measures by the military forces and the police and through extraordinary judicial measures and a greatly expanded prison system.

The framework within which security policies have operated and their often insensitive implementation have, since 1974, deepened the sense of alienation of the nationalist population.

The paramilitary organizations of both extremes feed on one another and on the intensity of British policy and its failure to provide peace and stability. Their message is one of hatred and of suppression of the rights of those of the other tradition.



Forum leaders: From top, Dr Garret FitzGerald (Fine Gael), Mr Charles Haughey (Fianna Fail), Mr Dick Spring (Labour) and Mr John Hume (Social Democratic and Labour Party).

The negative effect of IRA violence on British and unionist attitudes cannot be emphasized enough. Their terrorist acts create anger and indignation and a resolve not to give in to violence under any circumstances. They have the effect of stimulating additional security measures which further alienate the nationalist section of the community. They obscure the underlying political problem. They strengthen extremist unionist resistance to any form of dialogue and accommodation with nationalists.

The immobility and short-term focus of British policy - the fact that it has been confined to crisis management and does not take account of fundamental causes - is making an already dangerous situation worse. There is increasing frustration with the state of political paralysis, uncertainty as to long-term British intentions and growing mutual mistrust between both sections of the North with any constructive means of expressing its nationalism and its aspirations is undermining constitutional politics.

### Nationalist identity and attitudes

The parties in the Forum, representing a large majority of the people of Ireland, reaffirm that their shared aim of a united Ireland will be pursued only by democratic political means and on the basis of agreement.

For nationalists, a central aim has been the survival and development of an Irish identity, an objective that continues in Northern Ireland today as nationalists seek effective recognition of their Irish identity and pursue their rights and aspirations through political means.

The aim of nationalists, therefore, in seeking Irish unity is to develop and promote an Irishness that demonstrates, convincingly to Unionists, the concerns of the Unionist, and Protestant heritage can be accommodated in a credible way and that institutions can be created which would protect such concerns and provide fully for their legitimate self-expression.

The division of Ireland inevitably gave rise to the unconscious development in both parts of Ireland of partitionist attitudes on many political, economic, cultural and social questions of importance, diminishing significantly the development of a prospective unitary society on the whole of the island. Such attitudes persist up to the present day.

However, the tragedy of Northern Ireland - and the suffering of the people there has stimulated among nationalists in both parts of Ireland a new consciousness of the urgent need for understanding and accommodation.

Unionists generally regard themselves as being British, the inheritors of a specific communal loyalty to the British Crown. The traditional nationalist opposition to British rule is thus seen by Unionists as incompatible with the survival of their own sense of identity.

The Protestant tradition, which unionism seeks to embody, is seen as representing a

particular set of moral and cultural values epitomized by the concept of 'liberty of individual conscience'. This is often accompanied by a Protestant view of the Roman Catholic ethos as being authoritarian and as less respectful of individual judgment.

There is a widespread perception among Unionists that the Roman Catholic Church exerts an undue influence in regard to aspects of the civil and legal organization of society which Protestants consider to be a matter for private conscience.

While a settlement of the conflict entailing an end to violence and the dynamic effects of all-Ireland economic integration would bring considerable economic benefits, reconstruction of the Northern Ireland economy and the maintenance of living standards in the meantime would require the continuing availability of substantial transfers from outside over a period of years, whether from Britain, the European Community and the United States of America, or from Ireland as a whole.

A settlement which recognizes the legitimate rights of nationalists and unionists must transcend the context of Northern Ireland. Both London and Dublin have a responsibility to respond to the continuing suffering of the people of Northern Ireland. This requires a political framework within which urgent efforts can be undertaken to resolve the underlying causes of the problem.

It requires a common determination to provide conditions for peace, stability and justice so as to overcome the inevitable and destructive reactions of extremists on both sides.

The absence of political consensus, together with the erosion of the North's economy and social fabric, threatens to make irreversible the drift into

more widespread civil conflict with catastrophic consequences. The basic approach of British policy has created negative consequences. It has shown a disregard of the identity and ethos of nationalists. In effect, it has underwritten the supremacy in Northern Ireland of the unionist identity. Before there can be fundamental progress Britain must reassess its position and responsibility.

Agreement means that the political arrangements for a new and sovereign Ireland would have to be freely negotiated and agreed by the people of the North and by the people of the South.

The particular structure of political unity which the Forum would wish to see established is a unitary state, achieved by agreement and consent, embracing the whole island of Ireland and providing irrevocable guarantees for the protection and preservation of both the unionist and nationalist identities.

A unitary state on which agreement had been reached would also provide the ideal framework for the constructive interaction of the diverse cultures and values of the people of Ireland.

Constitutional nationalists fully accept that they alone could not determine the structures of Irish unity and that it is essential to have unionist agreement and participation in devising such structures and in formulating the guarantees they required. In line with this view, the Forum believes that the best people to identify the interests of the unionist tradition are the unionist people themselves. It would thus be essential that they should negotiate their role in any arrangements which would embody Irish unity.

### The creation of a unitary state

Such a state would represent a constitutional change of such magnitude as to require a new constitution that would be non-denominational. This constitution could only be formulated at an all-round constitutional conference convened by the British and Irish Governments.

Such a constitution would contain clauses which would guarantee civil and religious liberties to all the citizens of the state on a basis that would entail no alteration nor diminution of the provisions in respect of civil and religious liberties which apply at present to the citizens of Northern Ireland. These guarantees could not subsequently be changed, except in accordance with special procedures.

A redefined relationship between Britain and Ireland would take account of the unitary state of Britishness. In a unitary state, persons in Ireland, North and South, who at present hold British citizenship would continue to hold British citizenship and could pass it to their children without prejudice to the status of Irish citizenship which they would automatically acquire.

A two state federal/confederal Ireland, based on the existing identities, North and South, would reflect the political and administrative realities of the past 60 years and would entrench a measure of autonomy for both parts of Ireland within an all Ireland framework.

A federal/confederal constitution would be non-denominational and capable of alteration only by special procedures.

In a federation, residual power would rest with the central government. Certain powers would be vested in the two individual states. A confederation would comprise the two states which would delegate certain specified powers to a confederal governing body.

In a federal/confederal arrangement, each state would have its own parliament and executive.

Under joint authority, the London and Dublin governments would have equal responsibility for all aspects of the government of Northern Ireland.

### New Ireland Forum Report

Government Publications, Sale Office, Sun Alliance House, Molesworth Street, Dublin 2, 25p.

The report should lead to discussions with nothing raised out of the agenda and there should be a full Commons debate, he said.

The IRA's political wing, Sinn Féin, had reported a response to the Dublin Government to lift the broadcasting ban on the party so it could engage in debate on the report.

Dr FitzGerald said the report's ideas showed "an unprecedented sensitivity towards the Protestants of Northern Ireland".

He admitted the analysis advanced came from Irish nationalism but added: "I believe that our openness will be recognized publicly by many who do not share our perspective."



## Risk of cholera escape from research institute MPs told

By Richard Evans

A Whitehall health official has disclosed that there is "some risk" of dangerous bacteria and viruses, such as cholera and hepatitis, escaping from a biological research establishment in Hampstead, north London.

The statement by Mr Geoffrey Holmes, a deputy secretary of the Department of Health and Social Security, comes a year after the National Institute for Biological Standards and Control was the subject of a critical but unpublished report by the Health and Safety Executive which contained nearly 100 recommendations.

The institute, whose premises are in a converted Victorian hospital, is funded by the Government and is responsible for the standardisation and control of biological medicines.

Its 240 staff conduct scientific tests on biological products used in medicine, such as antibiotics, hormones and vaccines, to check their safety and quality and examine products before the Government issues a licence for their mass production.

The institute, which is also a World Health Organisation international laboratory, holds various dangerous pathogens, disease-causing agents, for its work, including cholera and hepatitis.

Mr Holmes told the Commons Social Services Select Committee: "There is some risk of leakage of dangerous pathogens into the environment or at least there is that possibility."

He told MPs that conditions inside the institute were overcrowded and that standards had been criticised by the Health and Safety Executive.

The executive's 20-page report found fault with nearly every aspect of the establishment, including divisions dealing with antibiotics, chemistry, viral and blood products, hormones, animal and sterile services.

A spokesman for the executive said yesterday the wide-ranging nature of its report indicated there were "some fairly serious problems there".

Criticisms were made of congested laboratories, inadequate ventilation, unsafe storage facilities and state of an old, bicycle shed, used for keeping equipment.

The institute was also urged to assess the potential risk to the health of staff who had to work with blood samples, possibly derived from donors suffering from AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome).

All the action recommended by the executive has been completed or is about to be undertaken, according to Mr Melvin Lort, secretary to the National Biological Standards Board, which administers the institute. There have been no leaks of dangerous pathogens to date, he says.

A purpose-built complex, costing £18m, is being constructed to house the institute in South Mimms, Hertfordshire. It will not be ready for use before 1986-87.

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## Six Sudan ministers lose jobs in reshuffle

Khartoum (AFP) - Six senior Sudanese ministers have lost their jobs in a Cabinet reshuffle by President Gaafar Nimeiry.

The changes follow the declaration of a state of emergency on Sunday in an attempt to deal with a spate of strikes and growing unrest. Details of the reshuffle were reported by the Sudanese news agency Suna.

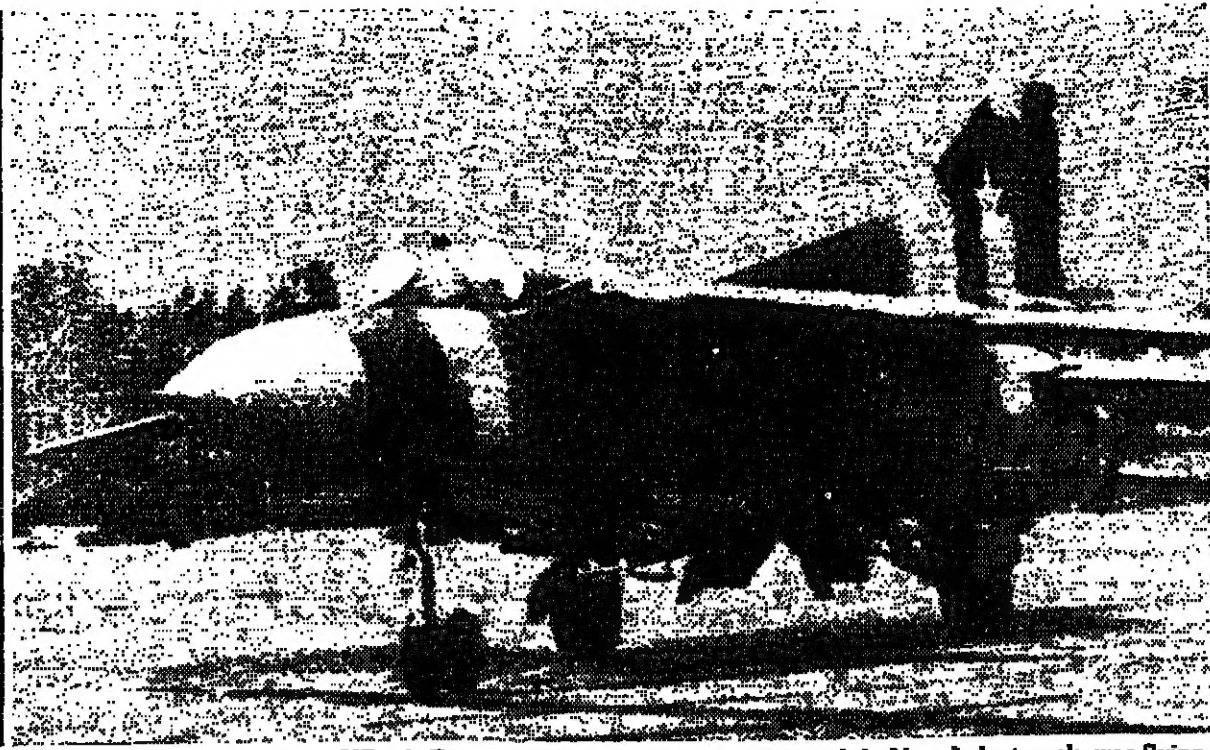
Mr Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak, the Foreign Minister, lost his post to Mr Hashim Osman, the official Under-Secretary and Mr Ahmed Abdul Rahman Muhammad, the Internal Affairs Minister, was replaced by Mr Kamal Hassan Ahmed, the deputy head of state security.

Mr Muhammad Khogali Salheen, Minister of Information and National Guidance for less than a year, lost his job to Mr Aly Muhammad Shummo, formerly chairman of the Council for Sports and Youth Welfare. Mr Aly Muhammad Fadul, the Health Minister, was replaced by Mr Abdulsalam Salih Elsa, commander of the Medical Corps.

GENEVA: Insurgents fighting government forces in southern Sudan will accept arms from Libya if they are offered, a senior official of the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Movement said here.



Test flight victim: Lieutenant-General Robert Bond (left), the veteran US Air Force pilot killed in a mysterious crash in Nevada last week, was flying a Soviet-made MiG23 Flogger fighter similar to the one above, according to press reports in Washington (Moshin Ali writes). The aircraft, said to come from a Middle East country other than Israel, was taking part in a top secret study of Soviet weaponry.



## Aid cuts hit Sahel hard

Recent cuts in development aid, partly attributable to the United States, will cause economic chaos and perhaps collapse in the drought-hit Sahel region of West Africa, Oxfam said (according to a Renter report) yesterday.

For the last two years the rains have failed in many parts of the Sahel, as they did in the disaster years of 1967 to 1973 when thousands of people died, the Oxfam report said.

The report, by Mr Nigel

Twose, a former Oxfam field director in Upper Volta, said the ability of large numbers of people to cope with the drought was declining while women, the traditional water carriers, were especially hard hit. All the Sahel nations - Cape Verde, Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, Mali, Niger, Chad and Upper Volta - are suffering from the drought.

Mr Twose said: "Heavy concentrations on cash crops has impoverished the land, and

more of the poorest are being slowly forced onto marginal land... desertification is intensifying."

He blamed aid cuts for exacerbating Sahel problems. He said the United States used political power to cut International Development Association (IDA) 1984-86 funds to \$9 billion (£6.4 billion) when the World Bank affiliate said it needed \$16 billion to do its job of giving poor states interest-free loans.

## Cancer kills nuclear test airman who spoke out

From Tony Daboudin, Melbourne

Mr John Burke, the former RAF technician who alleged that he found four dead Aborigines after a secret British nuclear test, has died of cancer at his Adelaide home.

His disclosures last week prompted an appeal by Mr John Bannan, the South Australian Premier, to the British Prime Minister and Opposition leader for more information on the

three secret tests at Maralinga in 1963.

Mr Burke said that he developed stomach cancer as a result of exposure to radiation during the test programme.

Meanwhile, a former Royal Australian Air Force serviceman has corroborated Mr Burke's reports of the three previously unpublished tests



The institute in Hampstead: "Potential risk to health of staff."

## £1m plea to state over painting sale

By Geraldine Norman

Sale Room Correspondent

The Manchester City Art Gallery has asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nigel Lawson, for £1m to help it buy a thirteenth century Siennese painting of the Crucifixion.

The painting has been sold by its present anonymous owner to the Getty Museum in Malibu, California, for £1.8m, but an export licence has been withheld until July 16 to allow Manchester to try to match this price.

Mr Tim Clifford, Manchester's director, said yesterday that he was challenging the Government to stick by its commitment to encourage private patronage of the arts.

"If the Chancellor will match the pound for pound, I am sure that I can manage to find £900,000," he said. "The National Art Collections Fund has committed itself to largest grant in its history at £500,000. That shows that the private sector really has its heart set on keeping the picture in Britain."

Government money to help with big museum purchases is normally channelled through the National Heritage Memorial Fund but it has refused Manchester's request for £1m.

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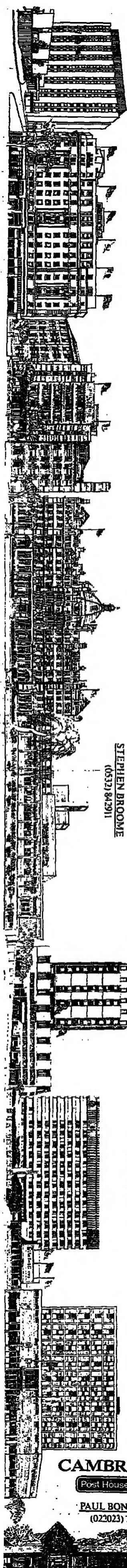
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STILL STREETS AHEAD. BRITAIN'S

## Syrians capture three Israelis 'sight seeing' north of Beirut

From Our Correspondent, Beirut

Three Israelis detained on the border of Syrian-controlled Lebanon are being held by Syria on charges that they are saboteurs. The arrests set off a flurry of angry accusations between Syria and Israel and caught Lebanon yet again in the middle of its neighbours' feud.

The Syrian military command said in a communiqué issued yesterday in Damascus that at 1pm on Tuesday "our forces arrested a group of Israeli saboteurs made up of three sabotage elements who tried to infiltrate behind our lines in northern Lebanon". The communiqué, distributed by the Syrian news agency Sana, did not explain why the Syrians had waited 24 hours to announce the arrests.

In Jerusalem, Israeli foreign ministry officials said the three men had been assigned to the Israeli "liaison office" in the Beirut suburb of Dbye and that they had been taken into custody after getting lost on a sightseeing trip. Israeli officials said they would hold both Syria and Lebanon responsible for their safe return.

Exactly how the three men - identified by Israel as Eran Florentin, Shmuel Koga and Nahum Nesher - came to fall into Syrian hands has not officially been established. The Israeli Army radio said that the trio had gone sightseeing in the ancient port city of Byblos and then, for some unexplained reason, proceeded north on the coastal highway and into trouble.

Military sources here said their car - bearing Lebanese number plates - crossed through the roadblock manned by the right-wing Christian Phalangist militia on the edge of the village of Barbara, and then through the Lebanese Army roadblock in nearby Madfoun. The villages are about 30 miles north of Beirut.

About 100 yards farther down the road they encountered

yet another roadblock - this one flying a Syrian flag. Reports differ on what happened next.

The voice of Free Lebanon, Phalangist radio station, said that the Israelis were trying to turn around short of the Syrian roadblock, but that the Syrians opened fire and the car overturned. According to the Lebanese military sources, the car screeched to a stop short of the roadblock and the three men fled to the beach near by.

The Israelis first fell into the hands of the Lebanese Army at a post it maintains in a former Boy Scout camp on the beach, the sources said, but Syrian soldiers, who by then had inspected the car and found maps with Hebrew lettering, demanded that the three be turned over to the Syrians because technically they had strayed into a Syrian military zone.

The new captives raise to six the number of Israelis being held by Syria including a pilot whose aircraft was shot down over the Bekaa Valley in eastern Lebanon. Three other Israelis are believed to be in the hands of Syrian-backed Palestinian units that operate both in Syria and Lebanon. Five other Israelis have been reported missing in the region, and are unaccounted for.

Cabinet gaps: Lebanon's new Cabinet held its first meeting at the presidential palace east of Beirut yesterday, but three opposition leaders offered portfolios failed to attend.

Their absence cast doubt on whether Mr Rashid Karami, Lebanon's Prime Minister-designate, would succeed in rapidly forming a government of "national unity". Two of the absent leaders, Mr Walid Jambati, the Druze chief and head of the Progressive Socialist Party, and Mr Nabih Berri, head of the Shia Muslim Amal militia - were in Damascus, discussing the Cabinet with Syria.

## Arabs see liaison office as Mossad outpost

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

The Israeli-Libyan liaison office is a curious, quasi-diplomatic outpost in Lebanon which has existed since it was founded in 1982, after the June invasion. Last autumn it moved from its original premises near the presidential palace at Baabda to a rented villa at Dbye on the coast a few miles north of Beirut.

The little-publicized office, which is supplied with its own Israeli security personnel and powerful communications equipment, is well outside the area of Lebanon controlled by the Israeli Army. Last night Israeli officials said that an undisclosed number of its staff remained on duty, and were assisting in efforts to secure the release of the three Israelis held by the Syrians.

The Israeli Foreign Ministry, which supplies some of the staff, was unwilling to reveal any precise details about the size or function of the office, which has long been regarded by the Syrians and their Lebanese allies as providing convenient cover for Israeli agents working for the Mossad secret service. Its original purpose was to smooth out problems arising between the Israeli and Lebanese governments.

Situated in premises rented from a Lebanese businessman, its continued existence after the Lebanon Government's formal abrogation of the ill-fated May 17, 1983, agreement with Israel was regarded by many observers as an anomaly unlikely to continue indefinitely.

## Solidarity to unleash renewed protests today

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

The anti-government demonstrations on May Day have left the Solidarity underground leaders determined to follow with a fresh wave of protests today, the anniversary of Poland's liberal 1791 constitution.

The occasion is less evocative - and less prone to embarrass the Polish authorities - than the demonstrations on May Day, the workers' holiday. But according to leaflets issued by the clandestine union leadership, Solidarity sympathizers should attend evening Mass, wearing religious or national badges to identify their sympathies and then chant their support.

On May 3 1982, the first anniversary of the declaration

of martial law, there was rioting throughout Poland and the security forces put down the unrest with great force. Today's affair is likely to be more modest. Even the May Day demonstrations this year involved far fewer people than in 1983.

The Polish authorities yesterday condemned the organizers of the May Day disturbances, which occurred in at least seven cities and towns, saying that they were enemies of the "realistically perceived interests of our nation and of the working people".

A commentary in the Warsaw newspaper *Zycie Warszawy* said that it appeared to be "very difficult for some

people to give up their illusions and abandon their myths".

What emerged from the rubble of the May Day demonstrations is that the Polish authorities will use every instrument available to contain street protests - but that even the massive show of force will not deter a hard core of mainly teenage demonstrators.

The young generation which has come to political maturity after the banning of Solidarity, seems to have struck a rough coalition with middle-aged devout women who resent the intrusion of the police onto holy ground.

During the May Day demonstrations near the Warsaw steelworks it was not unusual to see women in their forties

making V for victory signs or beating riot policemen with their umbrellas to prevent them arresting teenagers.

The May Day demonstrations in Nowa Huta - always one of the more violent areas - showed clearly how this new dynamic of protest operates. Some 3,000 parishioners, most of them Solidarity sympathizers, attended Mass in the steel city at a large new church, known as The Ark.

Long before the end of the Mass the church had been surrounded by a brigade of riot police who checked the documents of every passer-by.

When the congregation left after the service it saw the massive force of police and

began to clap ironically. Teenagers scattered leaflets among the crowd, but it was in no sense a demonstration until the police called on the people to disperse immediately. Then, led by young boys, the crowd shouted "Solidarity", whistling and catcalling when one of their number was arrested.

A convoy of armoured cars, tear gas lorries, water cannon and vans with the foot troops of the Zomo riot police drove in front of the church scattering the crowd. The people fled into the church, and the water cannon returned spraying bursts of red-dyed water at the sheltering congregation. More troops arrived and shot flares and smoke bombs, forcing everybody deeper into The Ark.



All smiles: Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, greets Dr Kohl, the West German Chancellor, on his arrival.

## Thatcher says siege no humiliation

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

The siege of St James's Square ended in humiliation not for Britain but for Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, who had all his people expelled from Britain and diplomatic relations severed, Mrs Margaret Thatcher said last night.

"After that tragic murder we managed to get all our own people out of the Embassy, in Tripoli safely home. That was not a humiliation but a success," she told a press conference after her summit meeting with Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany.

The two leaders, meeting with their senior ministers at Chequers, discussed the problems of having a people's revolutionary committee, such

as that which had taken control of the Libyan People's Bureau in London "masquerading as diplomatic representatives" - although Mrs Thatcher also disclosed that a number of European countries had jointly decided that such bureaux should be recognized officially.

The two leaders, who seemed broadly in agreement, certainly on the Libyan issue, also discussed, it only briefly, the Vienna Convention on diplomatic relations. But they were very much aware, Mrs Thatcher said, that nothing should be done which might make it more difficult for their embassies to work in countries which did not share their own principles.

Herr Kohl, after referring to the "terrible experience" which

Britain had undergone, also spoke of the need to reexamine the question of diplomatic status under the convention and made it clear that the matter was likely to be raised - probably at Britain's instigation - at next month's economic summit in London.

But Mrs Thatcher made clear when pressed for more detail of the Government's intentions, that it was a question of seeking closer cooperation on this issue of diplomatic immunity, and not one of imposing trade sanctions upon Colonel Gaddafi and his Libyan people.

Both heads of government were careful to stress the happy atmosphere and the useful and constructive nature of this, the fifteenth bilateral meeting

between the two countries. They also quickly dismissed any suggestion of lingering acrimony between them after the failure of the Brussels summit to reach agreement on EEC budgetary problems.

But Mrs Thatcher also went on to emphasise that Britain had "very little room to manoeuvre" in negotiating with the EEC partners over the British contribution to community funds.

Both she and Chancellor Kohl expressed the hope for an early solution. But they did not discuss specific figures at yesterday's sessions and sources on both sides had indicated in advance that no major breakthrough should be expected in their bilateral talks.

## Kohl points Europe to political union

By Richard Davy

In a powerful call for European political union, Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, told an audience in Oxford last night that Europeans must increase their weight and influence in Nato. They must learn to speak with one voice with the United States and other countries.

The European Community, Herr Kohl said, "is more than just a bank into which members deposit a sum of money in the firm expectation that they will subsequently be able to withdraw a larger sum". It should be made clear that member states

consider themselves permanently committed to European unification.

"Are all members prepared to work for the political union of Europe without ifs and buts?" he asked.

Tighter political organization would be required, Herr Kohl said, because the Community would have to talk increasingly about security policies, not as an alternative to the Atlantic alliance but in order to strengthen its European pillar.

"Nato - and particularly the close friendship and partnership with the US - should remain

the cornerstones of German security policy and the guarantor of our freedom."

Herr Kohl was delivering the Konrad Adenauer Memorial Lecture under the auspices of St Antony's College and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. He said that Dr Adenauer, the first postwar Chancellor of West Germany, knew that only within a community of like-minded states and peoples could the stability of German democracy, peace, freedom and social justice be permanently ensured in the face of totalitarian communism.



Oath of allegiance: Sydney Marrie, the South African runner, with his wife Lisa, taking the Oath in Philadelphia yesterday to become a US citizen

## Terrorism alert for papal visit

Seoul (NYT). - With the Pope arriving today for a five-day visit, South Korea has begun putting its security machinery into high gear.

The streets of Seoul are filled with young men in bright crewcuts and windbreakers who seem to have the power to stop anyone they please for questioning. Uniformed police patrols have been increased and guards surround public buildings in greater numbers than normal.

According to press reports, 3,000 policemen have been brought to Seoul from the provinces. Government officials would not say whether this was so, but they acknowledged that a terrorism alert had been ordered.

Concern for the Pope's safety has been exceptionally high in recent years, as has the overall number of Christians. International terrorist groups were plotting against him in South Korea. These groups were said to include a Turkish neo-Nazi organization, as well as the Venezuelan terrorist known as Carlos.

One government official said reports about possible threats against the pope had been received by South Korean intelligence authorities.

The Pope's visit comes against a backdrop of stepped-up student protests against the four-year-old Government of President Chun Doo Hwan.

The visit has been billed as a pastoral visit, intended to celebrate 200 years of Catholicism in Korea and to canonize 103 Christian martyrs at a huge open-air Mass on Sunday. There are now an estimated 1.7 million Korean Catholics, a total that has grown rapidly in recent years, as has the overall number of Christians.

Weapons ban: Police have banned the carrying of traditional weapons by tribesmen when the Pope visits Mount Hagen in Papua New Guinea's western highlands next week (AFP reports).

Tribesmen, who have already begun to walk to Mount Hagen along jungle trails have been told that they will not be allowed to carry bows and arrows, spears and clubs at the open-air Mass on Tuesday, for which a crowd of 150,000 is expected.

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مكتبة القاهرة



## South Africa bans inquiry on internment of 146 in Namibian prison camp

From Michael Hornby, Johannesburg

A legal and political controversy has arisen here over the South African Government's refusal to permit a court inquiry into the incarceration without trial for the last six years of at least 146 people in a prison camp at Mariental, 160 miles south-east of Windhoek, the capital of South African-occupied Namibia (South West Africa).

Attention has been drawn to the camp, about which there is little detailed information, by the decision of Mr. Koobes, the South African minister of justice, to ban the hearing before the Windhoek Supreme Court of a petition to secure the release of 37 of the detainees, the only ones whose names could be ascertained.

In doing so, Mr. Koobes invoked wide-ranging powers under the Defence Act, which, in effect, enable the Government to prevent the examination of the legality of actions deemed to have been taken by the Army or the state in good faith to suppress terrorism and protect national security. There is no appeal.

There are officially admitted to be 146 people in the camp, including 14 Angolans, but independent sources in Namibia believe the figure is much higher and that they may be more than 100 women among them. Nearly all, it is understood, were captured when the South African Army raided the town of Cassinga in southern Angola in 1978, at that time a headquarters of Swapo (South West Africa People's Organisation).

Swapo has been fighting for the independence of Namibia for the last 18 years and operates from bases in Angola. There, usefulness is how in question, however, because of an agreement between South Africa and Angola under which Pretoria's troops are being withdrawn from parts of southern Angola; they have occupied for the past three years. In return, Angola has pledged to stop Swapo infiltration into Namibia.

In early March of this year 23 applicants, among them leaders of the Lutheran, Anglican and Roman Catholic churches in Namibia, brought a legal action against, among others, the South African Defence Minister, to secure the release of 37 of the detainees on the grounds that their detention was unlawful under both South African and international law and that the Army had acted *ultra vires*.

This is the action the Government has now banned. There seems to be some confusion about the exact legal status of the detainees. Mr. Andre Colloomb, the head of the Pretoria office of the International Committee of the Red Cross, says they enjoy protection as prisoners of war under the Third Geneva Convention. The belief that there may be a large number of women in the camp—denied by army sources—rests largely on an affidavit by Mr. Bernard Shilongo, a carpenter, who was allowed to visit his sister in the camp in June of last year.

## Pretoria troops to guard dam

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

South Africa and black-ruled Mozambique are to take joint military action to ensure the security of the Cahora Bassa hydro-electric scheme. It has been a repeated target of sabotage by guerrillas, previous by covertly supported by South Africa, who are opposed to the Government of President Samora Machel.



President Machel: Joint units to patrol

This emerged yesterday at the signing by South Africa, Mozambique and Portugal in Cape Town Castle of a 32-year contract for the supply of electricity from the dam to South Africa at a tariff of 1.10 cents (about 0.6p) per kilowatt-hour, more than twice the previous rate.

The text of the agreement, one of the first fruits of the March 16 Nkomati Accord between Mozambique and South Africa, says the two countries will "jointly take immediate steps to protect the transmission lines from attack or interference and to safeguard the personnel responsible for the repair and maintenance of the lines."

Portuguese sources said they understood that joint "mobile units" would be formed to patrol the lines, with the South

Africans contributing equipment and personnel. No further details were immediately available from the South African side.

Built during the last years of the Portuguese colonial regime in Mozambique, the Cahora Bassa dam began commercial operations in 1978. But the supply of electricity has been constantly interrupted by sabotage and ceased altogether last October.

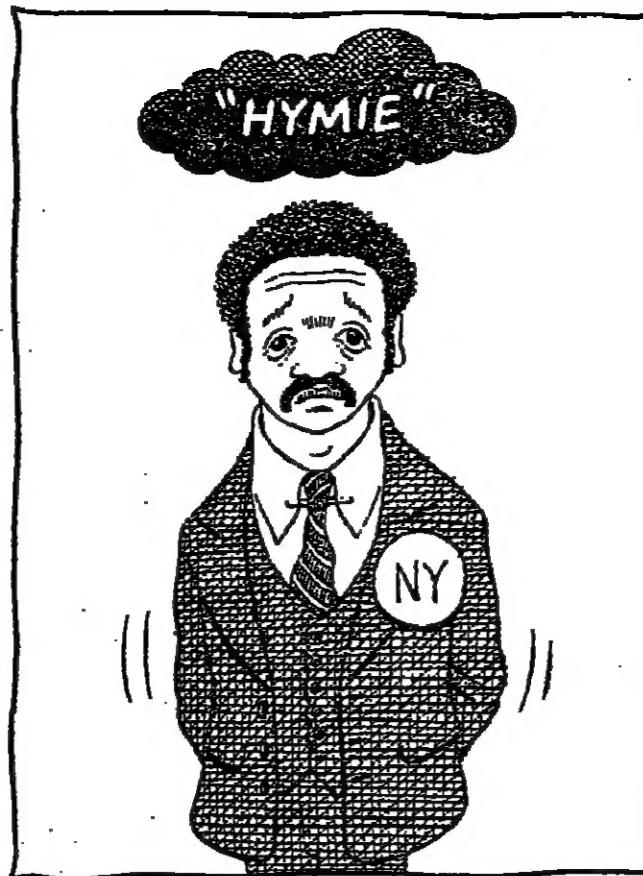
The lines are still down and South African officials say it could be up to five months before they are operational again.

Officials of Escom, the South African electricity supply commission, said South Africa would pay some 90m rand (£50m) a year for power from Cahora Bassa, which would meet about 8 per cent of national requirements. Most of this revenue would go to Portugal, to pay debts incurred in building the dam, but between 5 and 10m rand would go to Mozambique.

Mr. Mario Machungo, Mozambique's Minister for Planning, said his Government would be "an unshakable partner" in carrying out the agreement.

Under the Nkomati accord, South Africa implicitly agreed to withdraw support from the Mozambique National Resistance guerrillas responsible for sabotaging the power lines. The rebels have continued to be active, and earlier this week were reported to have killed three people and injured 10 others in an ambush 12 miles north of Maputo.

Mozambique and Portugal appear to be confident, however, that MNR activity will decrease as the guerrillas are denied South African supplies and logistical support.



## Jesse Jackson storms to big primary victory

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington



Mr. Walter Mondale

Mr. Walter Mondale moved closer to the Democratic presidential nomination yesterday by winning an easier-than-expected victory over his main rival, Senator Gary Hart, in the Tennessee primary on Tuesday.

Senator Hart's hopes of reviving his faltering campaign by staging a "second New Hampshire" in the South were dashed by a wave of apathy among Tennessee voters, most of whom stayed at home. Fewer than 15 per cent of the 2.2 million people eligible to vote bothered to cast their ballots.

Only among blacks was there a high turnout in support of the Rev. Jesse Jackson who finished a strong third. He gained an impressive 24 per cent in a state whose population is only 14 per cent black.

With virtually all votes counted, Mr. Mondale had won 42 per cent, Senator Hart 30 per cent and Mr. Jackson 24 per cent.

The Tennessee result dashed Senator Hart's dream of regaining lost momentum in time for the Texas caucuses which take place on Saturday and the Ohio primary next Tuesday.

Although Mr. Mondale was justifiably pleased with the Tennessee result, the big winner

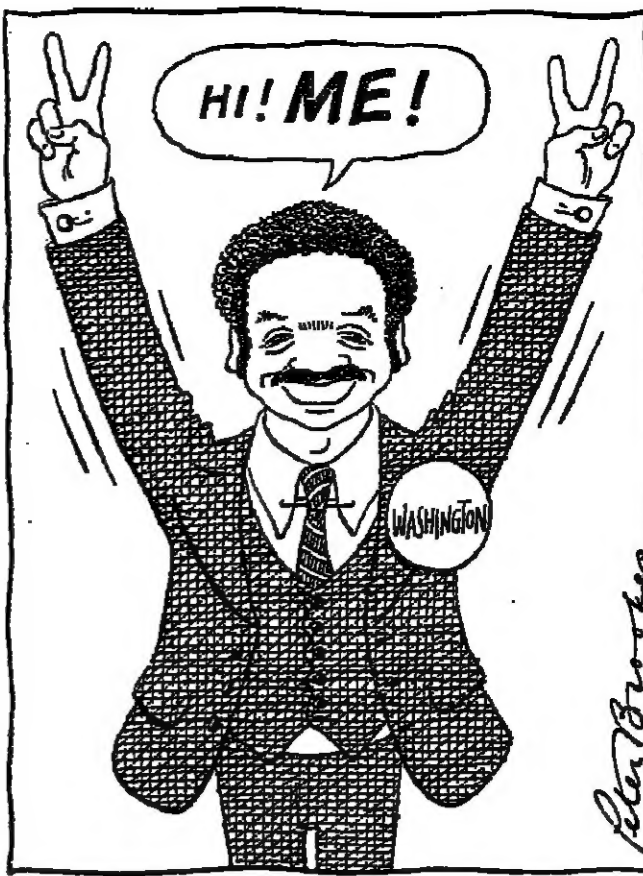
### HOW THEY STAND

The latest delegate count, according to United Press International, after the Tennessee and District of Columbia primaries. A total of 1,967 delegates is needed to secure the Democratic nomination.	
Mondale	1,215
Hart	643
Jackson	207
Uncommitted	330
Others	58
Total	2,453

on Tuesday was Mr. Jackson. Not only was Tennessee his most impressive performance to date in the South, but he also scored a resounding victory in Washington DC where he won a two-to-one victory over his nearest rival, giving the black activist his first clear-cut primary victory.

Mr. Jackson's victory in the nation's capital, a city whose population is over 70 per cent black, had long been expected, but the scale of his landslide surprised even his most ardent supporters. He won 67 per cent of the votes cast compared with 26 per cent for Mr. Mondale and 7 per cent for Senator Hart.

A jubilant Mr. Jackson told supporters: "Tonight is a victory for the boats stuck at the bottom. It's a victory for the rainbow coalition."



## High noon for Hart in Texas poll fiesta

From Christopher Thomas, Houston

Mr. Walter Mondale is riding high in Texas, bolstered by an arcane voting system rigged by the Democratic Party establishment to keep outsiders out. Senator Gary Hart hardly has a hope.

If Mr. Hart loses Texas in Saturday's caucuses, as he assuredly will, it will be another sounding of the death knell in his long-shot campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination. Two hundred delegates are at stake, the third largest delegation.

Saturday will be an electoral feast-day in Texas. By day there will be a simple primary election to select candidates for everything from county sheriff to the judge, a Senator, the district attorney and members of the state school board. By night, the caucuses will be held to choose a man for the White House. By any standards, Texas has devised a peculiar system.

The primary voting ends at 7 pm. The caucuses start 15 minutes later. But only those who voted by day will be allowed to vote by night—and Saturday night is no time to make the double journey. It is a system where not even money is master. It takes painstaking organization, the relentless telephoning of registered Democrats to get them to turn out twice. Without doubt, Mr.

Mondale's machine is best equipped for the task.

Throughout the state, groups averaging fewer than 20 people will gather in 6,600 small rooms—precinct conventions, they call them—to choose their man for President. No more than 10 per cent of those who voted by day are likely to come back at night. The smaller the turnout, the harder the core of establishment voters, and the better Mr. Mondale will like it.

There is only one slight worry for Mr. Mondale—the Spanish speakers, whose support will be important in other Western battles. Normally he would be assured of their overwhelming backing, but the Rev. Jesse Jackson has been campaigning hard in that quarter. The turnout of Hispanics may also be seriously diminished because it is Cinco de Mayo (the Fifth of May), Mexico's national holiday. Mexican-Americans would probably rather spend the evening in thousands of little smoke-filled caucus rooms.

The same is true of the young supporters of Mr. Hart. "The caucuses are stacked against us," he lamented, aware that Saturday night is no time to count on the Yuppies (young, upwardly mobile urban professionals), whose support has been the backbone of Mr. Hart's campaign.

## Bombing of Afghans condemned by Reagan

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

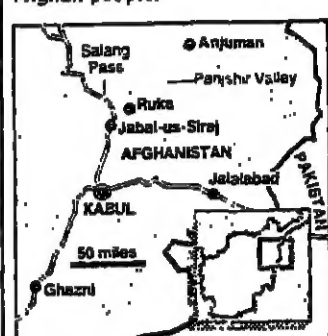
President Reagan yesterday condemned the Soviet use of high-altitude bombing as part of a new military offensive in Afghanistan, saying that it would "bring untold new suffering to the civilian population."

In a statement issued in Fairbanks, Alaska, soon after his return from a six-day visit to China, the President strongly attacked the Soviet escalation of fighting in the strategic Panjshir Valley of Afghanistan, which leads from Kabul to the Soviet border.

"These new Soviet military actions are unprecedented in several respects," he said, "including the large force levels being employed in the Panjshir Valley against the Afghan resistance and the use for the first time in Afghanistan of high-altitude bombing."

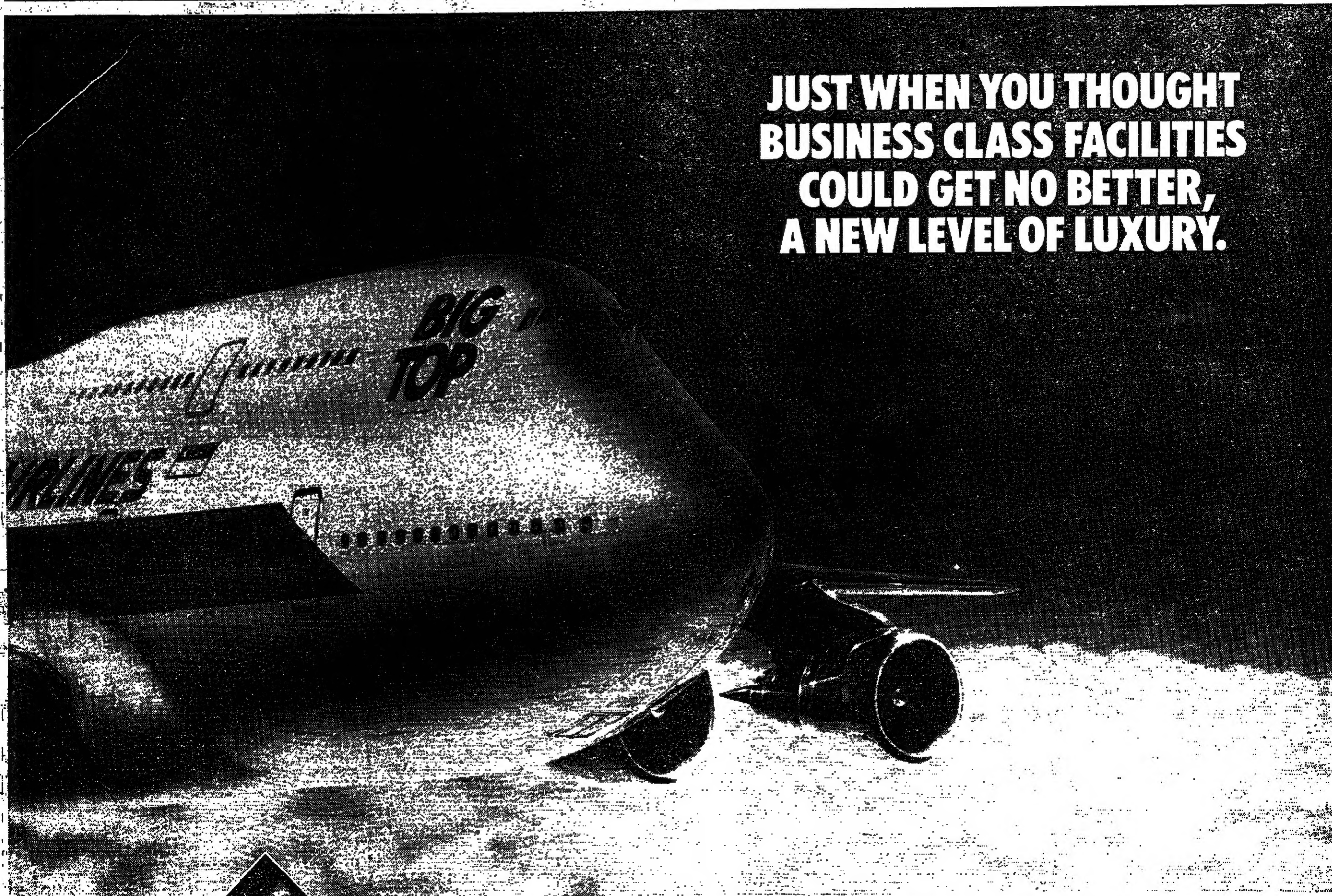
He added that the Soviet actions, the most massive since their invasion of Afghanistan four years ago, glaringly revealed the "brutal anti-civilian tactics" being used to subjugate an independent country.

The President urged the Soviet Union to join in efforts for a negotiated political settlement based on United Nations General Assembly resolutions calling for a withdrawal of Soviet forces, restoration of Afghanistan's independence, and self-determination for the Afghan people.



● Islamabad: Soviet forces attacking the Panjshir Valley may have landed units at a key pass at the eastern end of the valley, Western diplomats said here (Reuters reports).

Information from Kabul indicated that the Soviet troops, who are believed to have advanced about halfway up the 70-mile valley from the western mouth, could have landed troops at Anjuman pass, they added. But they did not appear to be entering the many side-valleys.



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## González gets out of his office to woo Spain's disaffected working class

From Richard Wigg, Madrid



Señor González: Few turned out to hear him

Señor Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister, has decided to get out of his office, where he has closeted himself except for essential foreign trips for more than a year, and make better contact with the country's problems.

Two visits in the past few days to Catalonia and the Basque country have shown that for this hitherto charismatic leader such contact was overdue.

The clear message from Spain's two most important regions has been that his Socialist Government's economic medicine for the crisis, however necessary for the nation makes working-class Socialist voters increasingly disillusioned and restive.

In a third sampling of unpleasant realities, Señor González was booed for the first time since he became Prime Minister 17 months ago, when he met industrialists owning small and medium-sized enterprises in the Madrid region last week.

He was booed as he told them home truths, such as that the much-criticized public sector deficit would hardly exist if all companies paid their taxes like their employees. Only 45 per cent of business and professional people paid their taxes, he said.

In Catalonia the Prime

Minister's campaign appearance did not stop the Socialists losing more than 600,000 votes in Sunday's election for a new Catalan Parliament, compared with the October, 1982, general election which put Señor González in power. Too many Castilian-speaking immigrant workers who settled in the boom years stayed away from the polls.

Señor González drew a crowd of only about 50,000 when he attended a May Day rally in Bilbao, where the pro-Socialist General Union of Workers (UGT) sent in its members by bus from all over Spain. By contrast, more than 100,000 attended a rival May Day

parade in Madrid of the Communist-run Workers' Commissions.

Señor González signalled that his Government is to try to remedy its error this year of not negotiating a national wages and incomes policy with the employers and trade unions and will start talks soon to achieve this for next year.

The trade unionists were given a pep talk. "If we do not do things on the basis of a sound and productive economy, it will be impossible to pursue policies of social justice and employment," Señor González declared.

Where could Spain today obtain funds for a Keynes-style refloating of the economy, he asks. He preferred to administer strict economic policies himself rather than to have the International Monetary Fund dictate the medicine.

In the Basque country and Catalonia the Socialists tried this spring in autonomous elections to capture power.

Señor González indicated that the election results will bring no fundamental change in his Government's devotion policies. There is a direct link with the crisis because the curbs on public spending by Señor Miguel Boyer, the Economics Minister, affect the money allocated to Spain's 17 autonomous regions.

## Army's soft line puzzles all sides in El Salvador

From John Carlin, San Salvador

For an institution reviled in recent years by human rights organizations all over the world, El Salvador's military has assumed a strikingly meek public position lately.

The chief of the Air Force, a hardline right-winger, Colonel Juan Bustillo, said on Monday that the days when the armed forces carried out coups were now over — an important assertion given widespread fears of a right-wing backlash after a likely Duarte victory in Sunday's presidential election.

Colonel Domingo Monterrosa, a notoriously ruthless commander in charge of operations in the east of the country, said the unthinkable to reporters last month: sooner or later, negotiations would have to take place with the guerrillas.

The Army's Chief of Staff, Colonel Adolfo Blandón, complained good-naturedly last week to the president of the Central Electoral Council that his soldiers had become "post-men" in a logistical operation to ensure that Sunday's vote goes smoothly.

On Tuesday a small May Day demonstration by the left-wing union, Musyges, was allowed by the armed forces to proceed peacefully. It was the first rally by the left in San Salvador in four years. In 1980 such demonstrations usually ended in panic, soldiers spray-



Best foot forward: El Salvador's Army polishes its professional image for America's benefit. (Photograph Raoul Shade)

ing crowds with machine-gun fire.

Civilians in the Duarte and D'Aubuisson camps, both moderates and right-wingers, have been conceding lately, in a bewildered fashion, that the military is changing, by which they mean it is becoming more apolitical, more professional, and less an apparatus of repression.

Colonel Blandón declared before reporters in February that the Army had been instructed to distance itself from the political process

during the election. Some officers failed to abide by Colonel Blandón's orders, notably two provincial commanders, Colonel Denis Morán and Colonel Jorge Cruz, who put the armed forces machinery to its traditional role of intimidating people into voting for the right.

Interestingly, both colonels have been mentioned by military sources recently as probable targets of a US-induced army clean-up, expected after the elections.

There has been a regular

flow this year of Salvadoran colonels bound for Washington to be told first hand that crucially needed American aid cannot be provided indefinitely without visible changes in the character of the Army. Visible changes there have been — but are they deep-rooted?

It emerged last week that a commission of the highest-ranking members of the armed forces had urged the Defence Minister in a letter to instruct the incoming President not to attempt serious changes in the armed forces' structure. In other words, to let him know that his constitutionally granted powers as Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces must be severely circumscribed.

There is a widespread attitude in the Salvadoran armed forces which has been summed up like this: "Let the Yankees see what they want to do. Then do what you want to do." It has worked in recent years, with little more than lip-service to human rights ensuring ever-increasing quantities of American military aid.

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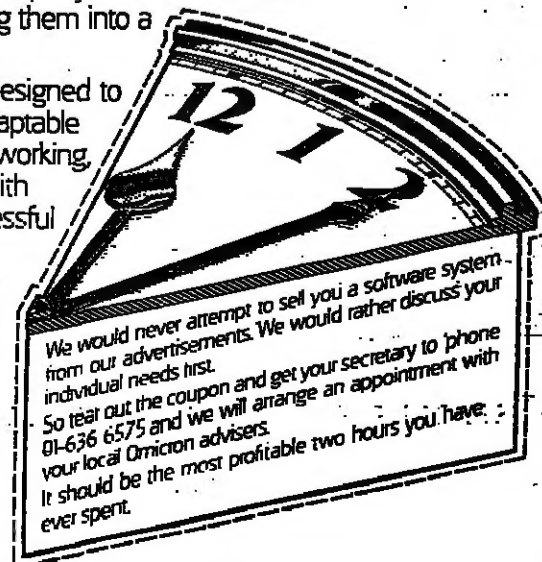


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## Summer treaty hope for Central America

From Stephen Kinzer, New York Times Panama City

The Foreign Ministers of Colombia, Venezuela, Mexico and Panama hope to produce a draft peace treaty for Central America this summer, according to diplomats who took part in high-level meetings here this week.

The four Foreign Ministers, who represent the countries of the so-called Contadora Group, on Tuesday concluded three days of talks which included meetings with their counterparts from five Central American countries. They expressed concern about what they said was increasing militarization and tension in the area, but said in a communiqué that they had made "highly satisfactory" progress towards an agreement.

"We are ready to begin the process of drawing up a regional agreement for peace in Central America," said Señor Bernardo Sepúlveda, the Mexican Foreign Minister.

The five countries are El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

An American congressman who has been meeting senior officials in the region this week, Mr. Bill Alexander (Democrat, Arkansas), said in an interview that "the pieces of the puzzle are ready to be put together".

● **SAN SALVADOR:** Troops backed by aircraft and artillery began a drive on rebel positions

north-east of the capital, reporters returning from the area said (AP reports).

More than 3,000 soldiers converged on left-wing guerrillas believed to have massed in the area between the towns of Tegucigalpa and Jutiapa about 40 miles north-east of the capital, said Colonel Jaime Flores, commander of the 1st Infantry Brigade, which is responsible for the area.

He was interviewed by reporters near Tegucigalpa, where he was commanding some of the troops.

Four 105mm howitzers pounded rebel positions from a football field in Ilobasco, 10 miles south of Jutiapa, and other artillery appeared to be firing from an area west of Jutiapa, the journalists said.

● **TEGUCIGALPA:** More than 20,000 protesters chanting anti-American slogans marched through Tegucigalpa to mark the May Day holiday in Honduras and left-wing unions in El Salvador held their first public rally for four years.

The demonstration in Tegucigalpa was the biggest protest march in Honduras in recent years, and left-wing orators denounced the Government of President Roberto Suazo Córdova for allowing a growing US military presence in the country.

## Air Force defended by Marcos

From Keith Dalton, Manila

President Marcos yesterday announced his complete faith and trust in the Philippine Air Force and defended the service against opposition charges that Air Force personnel were linked to the assassination of the opposition leader, Mr. Benigno Aquino.

Mr. Marcos, who earlier blamed the Communists for killing his arch-rival, told servicemen in a speech on the forty-eighth anniversary of the Air Force: "Patience should have demanded that we neither condemn nor condone anyone until the facts shall have been fully established."

"Yet some of our countrymen have already publicly indicted and condemned the aviation security command, the Philippine Air Force itself and even the whole of the armed forces of the Philippines."

Not once did Mr. Marcos mention Mr. Aquino by name. His death in military custody on August 21, precipitated the worst economic and political crisis faced by the 18-year-old Marcos regime, and both the Aquino family and the opposition have blamed the military for his murder.

Mr. Marcos, aged 66, said: "Whatever we feel about this event, and however we may desire to punish the perpetrators of this deed, our quest for justice in this case should not lead us to blame indiscriminately... guilt is a personal thing and the sin of one or of a group should never be blamed on everyone."

## Americans have longer lives

New York (AP) — The life expectancy of babies born in the United States last year reached a record 74.6 years, according to an annual report from Metropolitan Life Insurance. Girls born in 1983 can expect to live 78.9 years, and boys 70.9 years.



Señor Alfonsín: Concern over the economy

## Argentines urged to close ranks

From Douglas Tweeddale, Buenos Aires

President Raúl Alfonsín made a renewed call for national unity in the face of economic problems on Tuesday as he formally opened Congressional sessions with a two-hour speech.

Nearly half of the President's "state of the republic" message to joint houses of Congress was taken up with an outline of the economic crisis he inherited from the military Government when it stepped down last December and the measures he has taken to combat it.

Señor Alfonsín announced that Argentina would send a letter of intent outlining its economic programmes to the International Monetary Fund "in the coming days."

"We inherited a state that was totally distorted," Señor Alfonsín said. He warned that "the country is still at the edge of the abyss" and called for "A profound reconciliation" among Argentines to confront the crisis.

In the course of his speech before Congress, President Alfonsín also said: "We hope the distances which separate us from Great Britain (in the Falklands conflict) can be overcome, and we expect a recognition of this spirit from the British Government and an equally broad will to resolve this conflict."

هكذا من الماضي



## THE ARTS

John Percival surveys the thriving Paris dance scene  
Nureyev as resourceful as ever

Contrasts are providing the pattern of Rudolf Nureyev's first season in Paris as director of the Ballet de l'Opéra. His avowed aim is, while maintaining and even extending the company's classic heritage, to give the dancers as many new experiences as possible. As I reported earlier on this page, the opening programmes showed the theme: a revival of *Coppélia*, the new *Raymonda* and an evening of modern works by American choreographers.

Since then, programmes at the Opéra itself included two productions new to the house: Pierre Lacotte's *Marco Spada* does not intend to be taken too seriously. A reworking of a plot from 1857 about bandits, mistaken identity and lovers at cross purposes, it has a rambling but catchy score by Auber, and lively characters who all burst into bravura solos at the slightest provocation. I thought it even more fun, because generally better danced, in Paris than in Lacotte's original staging in Rome three years ago. Patrice Bart's bouncily optimistic captain of dragoons, Ghislaine Thesmar's wit and style, and the bounding promise of young Frédéric Olivier were special pleasures, besides three different accounts of the title part: Nureyev blithely mischievous, Cyril Atanassoff playing more straightforward comedy, Patrick Dupond dazlingly unpredictable but having no real relation to anyone or anything else on stage.

Nureyev's *The Tempest* has undergone a sea-change in crossing the Channel. Georgiadis's designs, slightly modified (the shipwreck less effective, but many entrances and exits more so), look good on the large stage, and Nureyev has rethought some of the choreography, improving Prospero's angry quelling of his creatures at the end of the fugue, and providing him with a new solo, to bid farewell to his island and his magic. Jean Guizerix shares that role with Nureyev — both are excellent — and, although the French Mirandolas do not quite match their London counterparts, Paris has a fine androgynous Ariel in Olivier and a superb Caliban in Eric Vu An, frighteningly reptilian.

There have been particularly enterprising programmes also outside the Théâtre de l'Opéra. At the Opéra-Comique, Nureyev devised a *commedia dell'arte* programme that suited the intimate old theatre perfectly. I imagine that the cast will find the larger, brasher surroundings of the Edinburgh Playhouse less congenial when they bring the show to this year's Festival, but it will still be well worth seeing.

The novelty of the evening is *Arlequin, magicien par amour*, a recreation by Ivo Cramér, from eighteenth-century documents, of an old pantomime ballet to music by Edouard de Puy, using original decors from the Drottningholm Court Theatre outside Stockholm. You may remember Margot Fonteyn demonstrating their quick-change possibilities in her *Arlequin* television series here; they serve to keep a complex but surprisingly intelligible plot in swift motion.

Nureyev and Dupond, alternating as Harlequin in this and as Cléopâtre in a revival of Balanchine's *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*. Both are very funny in both roles, where Nureyev has the edge on his brilliant younger colleague in the ability to play to the other performers in a way that brings out their best. Claude de Vulpien is both pretty and witty as Cléopâtre in *Arlequin, magicien*, and one of the youngest of the new talents, Elisabeth Maurin, also shows a notably robust charm and humour in that part.

An uneven but spirited new production by Nicolas Beriozoff of Fokine's *Carnaval* completes the bill. This ballet, used to be



Nureyev's funny — and inspiring — Harlequin

danced all the time but has been sadly neglected lately, which makes it welcome. Bart or Dupond as Harlequin and Florence Clerf or Monique Loubières as Cléopâtre ably lead the cast. Some of the roles, particularly Pantalon and Chianina, need rethinking (although Thesmar's sympathetic performance almost saves the latter), and Pierrot needs much stronger casting — maybe Nureyev should take it on?

Charles Farncombe, an English conductor who has worked a lot in Sweden, directs the *commedia dell'arte* programme, and Ashley Lawrence has been commuting between Covent Garden and the Opéra for the programmes there. Musically as well as choreographically, there are some enterprising programmes to come before the season ends: a Stravinsky evening of ballets by Balanchine, Taylor, MacMillan and Nils Christie at the Opéra; and a Stockholm ballet by Karole Armitage, Rudi van Dantzig and Dany Grossman at the Opéra-Comique.

Van Dantzig and a 40-year-old Dutch composer, Sytze Smit, are represented in the latest programme, mounted for a short run, at the Champs-Élysées. To tackle in one evening the Balanchine/Mozart *Divertimento No. 15*, with its elegant formality, and the abrasive modern classicism of the Dutch creators is quite a challenge, which Nureyev's young casts tackle with great success.

The new work is *No man's land*, in which Smit's score, for a chamber ensemble sounds something like Stra-

vinsky put through a food processor. It provides a harsh background against which Van Dantzig embodies, in virtuosic solos and voracious duets, with an accompanying ensemble of restless discontent, an expression of the disenchantment of young people today — what the programme note calls the "no-future generation".

The dancers perform it with avid ferocity, and even the redoubtable Dupond, for all his explosive power, is for once eclipsed by his partner, Sylvie Guillem, a newcomer who will hear much more of her. Slender, with a long, serious face, she has amazingly flexible extensions, a striking personality, and a range that makes her equally impressive in this and the joyous graciousness of the Balanchine ballet.

The programme also includes a creation in which Nureyev has collaborated with Francine Lancelotti, an expert on historic dance styles. The music is Bach's Cello Suite No. 3, played on stage by Christophe Coin. The first half of each dance is the authentic eighteenth-century allemande, courante, sarabande, bourrée or gigue, very formal, with tiny steps and stately use of the hands. Then Nureyev elaborates that choreographic material into bolder, more free and complex form for the second half of each dance. Lasting nearly 20 minutes, it makes a solo as fascinating as it is unusual, which Nureyev, enamoured of the baroque style since his Kirov schooldays, performs with flair, presence and immaculate command.

Television  
Poetic justice

There is nothing that daunts Channel 4 in its efforts to reach the parts that others cannot or, one might think, dare not reach. To present *Six Centuries of Verse* is a grand concept, especially as it is effected, as Sir John Gielgud reminded us last night, in full awareness of Arnold Bennett's observation that no word could empty a public place in Britain quicker than the word "poetry".

Having Sir John as presenter is, of course, an advantage. He enunciates and speaks beautifully, meanwhile looking us straight in the eye from time to time with that absolute assurance of a man who can rightly feel that he has earned our respect. One is hesitant to flee from Sir John or do him the discourtesy of turning off.

In any event there were other lustrous names tripping on at a fairly breathless pace: Dame Peggy Ashcroft, Cyril Cusack, Ian Richardson and Lee Remick among them. The last appeared charmingly speaking Emily Dickinson's lines from a place wherein, one supposed, she wrote them, and looking most unlike that solitary, confined figure. That is the way it will be for all 16 programmes — the lines being spoken from suitable backgrounds with, where appropriate, paintings from the appropriate period. Seven programmes will follow last night's, then we can draw breath until the autumn for the remainder.

The first was rather hectic, despite the calming presence of Sir John. We were whipped through the entire 600 years in a representative way, from Chaucer (subtitled here) to Ted Hughes — a spanking pace, but there was slightly under half an hour for the journey. It demanded speedy re-adjustment of the ear.

Still, this was a faster and more leisurely and detailed, giving us time to savour. The series has been compiled by Anthony Thwaites and next week's subtitled will be helping out with our Old English. Arnold Bennett may be confounded, at least in this public place.

On BBC2 there was a miserable little play, *Still Life* by Julie Welch, which superimposed rather dextrous dialogue on the most implausible characters. It took place in a hospital ward where newly-paralyzed teacher Bob (Michael Kitchen) lies alongside much earlier-paralyzed jockey Frank, played by the most un-jockey-like Bernard Hill of *Blackfox* fame.

Bob is sanguine at first. Frank, at his sweetest, bitter and possessed of a vocabulary and mordant turn of phrase one surely would not learn round the stables. It ended unhappily and unsatisfyingly. Not life at all, one felt, all in Miss Welch's mind.

Dennis Hackett

Opera  
A Midsummer Night's Dream  
Covent Garden

The impression one gains from the current spate of Britten productions is simple and obvious, but it is also strong: it is one of sheer amazement at the man's daring in trying so many different ways of doing an opera, and getting it right. Perhaps *A Midsummer Night's Dream* was the severest challenge he ever set himself, to musicalize words he had to assume would be thoroughly familiar to any English-speaking audience (though he might justifiably have been less generous in his opinion of the chorus of coughers and chatters at Covent Garden on Tuesday). But it works.

And it works partly because it is so conscious of its predicament. Knowing that his audience are going to be experiencing two *Dreams* — his own and the residue of readings and performances they carry in their heads — Britten writes as if for testing and comparison. He invites one to watch him surmounting the obstacles of turning Shakespeare into opera, and generates from this a large store of irony to place the characters on different levels of reality. Crudely one may say that the order of the everyday world is inverted: the supernatural beings are most real (Tytania's love for Bottom is infinitely more richly expressed than the fancies of the bickering quartet) and the ordinary men most formalized. But of course it is not as easy as that, and one merit of John Copley's staging, revived for the first time in



Marie McLaughlin: gorgeousness in the making

eight years, is that it allows the satire to be touching and the magic cruel.

The same slipperiness in the score, which ought to be a source of much disturbing beauty, is not so well realized. Since the conductor is Roderick Brydon, who was responsible for Scottish Opera's musically very successful *Death in Venice* last year, I am inclined to think the blame for this must lie with the difficulties that exist in projecting a chamber score of great delicacy in the Royal Opera House. On Tuesday there were nagging faults of ensemble and brass from the brass, making this an unfortunate debut with the company for Mr Brydon.

Some of the same problems affect the cast, most of whom are also new to their roles if not to the house. For instance, the two pairs of lovers are even blander as characters in the opera than they are in the play, but a large theatre further attenuates their interest, to the extent that they have to overact in order to be seen to be acting

at all. Wisely those concerned here kept such excesses to a minimum, but that meant that they scarcely figured as anything more than vocal instruments. Robin Leggate sounded surprisingly like the young Peter Pears as Lysander (not in fact a Pears role). Jonathan Summers was vigorous as Demetrius. Yvonne Kenny, ringing as Helena, and Claire Powell warmly sympathetic as Hermia.

Among a strong group of mechanicals, Stafford Dean discovers unsuspected funds of beauty and elegance in Bottom's music by singing it firm and straight. Marie McLaughlin has all the makings of a gorgeous Tytania: this is a role that positively flowers under her care for decoration in the high register, and it was a great pity she lost her footing through one passage of the second act. James Bowman returns as the incomparable Oberon, expressing by himself alone all that is strange, seductive and sinister in this opera.

Paul Griffiths

## Theatre

Romeo and Juliet  
Other Place, Stratford

Completing 10 years at The Other Place, which has seen many (perhaps most) of Stratford's best productions — they were cutting the cake when I left — is John Caird's *Romeo and Juliet*, much gained in crispness and urgency since I saw it on its winter tour of the sticks.

Moving more firmly than ever into its centre is Amanda Root's Juliet, the epitome of innocent vitality, filling the big scenes with the comedy of early love's absurd miniature dramas (one of the production's trademarks) but rising courageously and movingly to the final test. Her new Romeo, Simon Templeman, interestingly argues out the workaday of the early scenes almost pedantically: poetry (though fire and drama remain his strongest suits) takes possession of him only with his first real love.

With slight alterations, including a drape of a Giottoesque Christ delicately veiling

Roger Allam's highly original Mercutio, has, if anything, gained in unpleasantness, regarding whining love with unrepressible disdain — "Now art thou thyself", he cries joyfully when Romeo briefly returns to earth — and despatching the comedy with broad, ruthless relish. His death is simply not regrettable, but as he and his colleagues played it, never taking the wound seriously until too late, it is superbly dramatic. Frank Middlemass, the new Friar Laurence, is no match for Robert Eddis, but he sustains the interest effortlessly in the long coda following the lovers' death. And Polly James's warm, bustling Irish Nurse is enchanting and convincing as ever, her comforting prattle horribly turning to heartlessness when she reckons Juliet is better off with Paris.

With slight alterations, including a drape of a Giottoesque Christ delicately veiling

Juliet's entry to the balcony. Bob Crowley's set backs the stage with a wall of lovely, semi-laminated mirror tiles hung with masks suggesting ancestors' memorials in a Roman shrine, but also ironically recalling the fateful masquerade. Beautifully lit by Brian Harris, though textually inspired — surely the firelight effect for the party is new — it gives fluidity to a production where drama, speed and a good deal of tragic power almost compensate for the loss of magic in the great poetic flights. And the piercingly sweet bird chorus, Romeo's cue for departure after his night of delight, now accompanies a beautifully-held, wordless minute as the lovers gaze at each other; only with hindsight could you know that it will also, in the play's closing moments, innocently announce another dawn over their grave.

Anthony Masters

## Dance in London

Suarez makes her entrance for the third season walking along a ramp formed by the men's shoulder-blades, and spends most of her time aloft. Set to pieces by Handel and Marcello, the dances are bizarre but fascinating.

And so to *La Diva*, the tribute of one *monstrous* to another. The music sounds like one of those radio quiz games, quotations from composers ranging from Bellini and Bizet to Verdi and Wagner.

In a long black frock and heeled shoes, Alonso first stands by a piano mirroring a singer's gestures. But before long she is twittering about in tutu and toe shoes; then an impassioned lover, with scanty draperies and loose hair, adorning and losing her muscular, bare-chested partner Jorge Esquivel; and finally a bare-footed creature of tragedy dying across the piano top. Her feet are amazingly strong, her acting fabulous, but it is disconcerting to see the heavy hips and lined face scampering so coyly. I prefer my memories — of Callas and Alonso.

John Percival

## Concert

## Mongolian yoke hangs heavy

LPO/Chailly  
Festival Hall/Radio 3

As the heat of audience response to Carl Davis's *Napoleon*, Shostakovich and *New Babylon* and, only four days earlier, Benedict Mason and *The Italian Straw Hat* has shown, the appetite for the silent film and the live score has been whetted, and the hunger, it seems, is here to stay. The phenomenon, which surely makes its own oblique but

significant comment on the current nature, and consequent needs of audience nourishment, spreads to the concert hall in the ever-increasing popularity of Prokofiev's cantata *Alexander Nevsky*.

As distances become shorter, the face of Eisenstein seems to grow nearer. Tuesday night's presentation of the suite from the film was fiercely and specifically cinematic in its emphases. There have recently been more sophisticated, more icily incisive readings, but few in which

the heavy trudge, the striding, cumulative weight of the Mongolian yoke has hung so heavy. Few, either, in which cellos and violas have recreated so physically the tense, jittering footage of "The Battle on Ice".

Riccardo Chailly drew on the London Philharmonic's excellent strings to voice out the curious muted ambivalence of the battle-lament merging and fading, keenly tuned to Prokofiev's ear and Eisenstein's eye. But if this was a performance unusually strong in sound and image, it was weaker in word: the London Philharmonic Chorus were just a little overgeneral, and Birgit Finnila make rather too heavy, too glorious, a meal of her "Field of the Dead" lament, which lacked the numb chill of an Arkhipova or Vishnevskaya.

The lament of the Russian girl, sung as it was on Tuesday by a compatriot of Nevsky's enemy forces, made, with a quiet irony, its own Mayday comment as, by evocation, did Chailly's tautly dramatic reading of Wagner's *Rienzi* Overture. So much bombast, so much militarism seemed, alas, to have trickled into the blood of Kyung Wha Chung. Her Dvorak Violin Concerto seemed to be strenuously overcompensating for the work's own comparative lack of direction with an almost apologetic intensity.

Hilary Finch

## Galleries

Containers by  
Bookbinders  
British Crafts Centre

A little while ago, while taking part in a symposium about arts and crafts and the distinction between them, I was puzzled by a gentleman who announced from the floor that he was a "book sculptor". Some careful questioning elicited the fact that he did not, for example, carve up books to make something else, but was just an art bookbinder who did not want people, as he said, to bring him their old Penguins for binding. I thought that was rather cheating the terminology, but I suppose the binders represented in the Crafts Council's new show, *Containers by Bookbinders*, until Saturday, could reasonably claim some such label.

Not that they, either, butcher books to make a sculptor's holiday. On the contrary, they treat them with a reverence which may sometimes finally get in the way of the book's effective storage and use. For, while the books are as a rule bound, often very beautifully, in a more or less traditional fashion, the point of the exercise lies in how the finished book is contained and displayed. Often it is in some way directly inspired by the book's contents.

Faith Shannon, for example, takes a copy of Poe's *Tales of Mystery and Imagination* illustrated by Harry Clarke, and first binds it in black (distressed

goatskin and underlaid with suede, frog and snakeskin), all slashed and impressed with ropes and chains. Then she wraps it in swaths of black silk, and lays it to rest in a beautifully made black wood casket, velvet lined, which carries the funeral metaphor through to the bitter end. Philip Smead, more simply, embeds Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings* in a slipcase made into a freestanding table sculpture in the form of an evidently hobbit-haunted mountain, or holds a small New Testament and Psalms between a pair of lifelike carved hands with unmistakable overtones of Dürer.

Some of the binders go a stage further. Robert Hadrell's *Berlin* is all his own work, made of plaster of Paris, sand and PVA, and then imprisoned in a complex construction of primary-colour Lego pieces which must be partially dismantled before one can get at the book at all. Ronald King in *The White Alphabet* makes a double-sided concertina book out of the 26 capital letters cut in such a way that they pop up as the book is opened, and then places it in inlaid wood boards all wrapped in a cloth container. Such works, can reasonably be called book sculpture, which has about the same sort of relationship to normal binding, as concrete poetry has to the more traditional sort. Interesting to visit, even if you would not want to live with them.

John Russell Taylor

A ding-dong sparring match between two of our finest actors, Albert Finney and Tom Courtenay, gorgeously funny. *THE DRESSER*

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## BOOKS

# Travels in search of the anxious Self

James Fenton on V. S. Naipaul

Our greatest journalists, Graham Greene and V. S. Naipaul, it is fair to say that their true assignment is not the exotic country they happen to be visiting. Their true assignment is the Self. And so it happens that the globe they present to us has a certain homogeneous quality. Wherever Greene goes his grand boredom accompanies him — like poor Mr. Trellford's Matabeleland shadow, only to be given the slip at night. And in the case of Naipaul there is always that liverishness and that hysteria. Superficially, he would appear to be precisely the wrong person to be travelling — his stomach is not up to it.

These authors have been much emulated by their rivals. Boredom and hysteria have become the recurrent themes of contemporary travellers. And yet, although one cannot claim that such good writers are positively bad examples, the results have not always been happy. Boredom is not a pair of binoculars to be passed along the tarmac at landfall. Greene's boredom is of a very special, personal kind. It is like an instrument that only he can play. In the same way Naipaul's hysteria, which springs as he tells us from a terror of extinction, is not a quality to be borrowed. We all know or can guess what it is like to get into a flap at an airport. But what Naipaul describes is very much more than that. It is the primal, existential flap.

In the second of the essays in *Finding the Centre*, Naipaul tells us that he travels in order to understand other states of mind. But he adds that:

*If for this intellectual adventure I go in places where people live restricted lives, it is because my curiosity is still about in part by my colonial Trinidad background. I go to places which, however alien, connect in some way with what I already know. When my curiosity has been satisfied, when there are no more*

## FINDING THE CENTRE

By V. S. Naipaul

Andre Deutsch, £7.95

## A HOUSE FOR MR BISWAS

By V. S. Naipaul

Andre Deutsch, £9.95

surprises, the intellectual adventure is over and I become anxious to leave.

In other words he finds his "other start of mind", extracts the quality of self-knowledge he was after, and buzzes off. There is a melancholy Don Juanism in this intellectual search. Anxiety to leave is Naipaul's form of randomness.

Yet he will weep because there are no more worlds to conquer. Every single conquest will be its own cause of sorrow: of anxiety. But for a man of Indian extraction and Caribbean upbringing the relevant world is wide indeed. India is relevant. Africa is relevant. If, say, Holland might not at first appear relevant (to choose one country at random), one has only to pause and think: what about the Dutch East India Company? Or what about those Moluccans? All over the world, the relevance has come ashore like rats off ships. Naipaul's world is the post-colonial world: that is to say, it is the world itself, integrated as it is by imperialism.

So he takes a trip to the Ivory Coast, to observe the successful former French colony; and at once he becomes aware of the strange presidential palace at Yamoussoukro. The point about this place, built to contain the village where the President was born, is that it represents the latest thing in modernization, and yet it features a lake full of man-eating crocodiles. These animals have been specially introduced, for reasons which appear to be magical. The crocodiles are the President's totemic animal. The power of

the palace seems to derive from their presence and daily feedings with fresh meat. Outside the palace: the golf course, the luxury hotel, the well-lit boulevards inside the palace; the ancestral village on the palaver tree. Protecting the palace: the crocodiles.

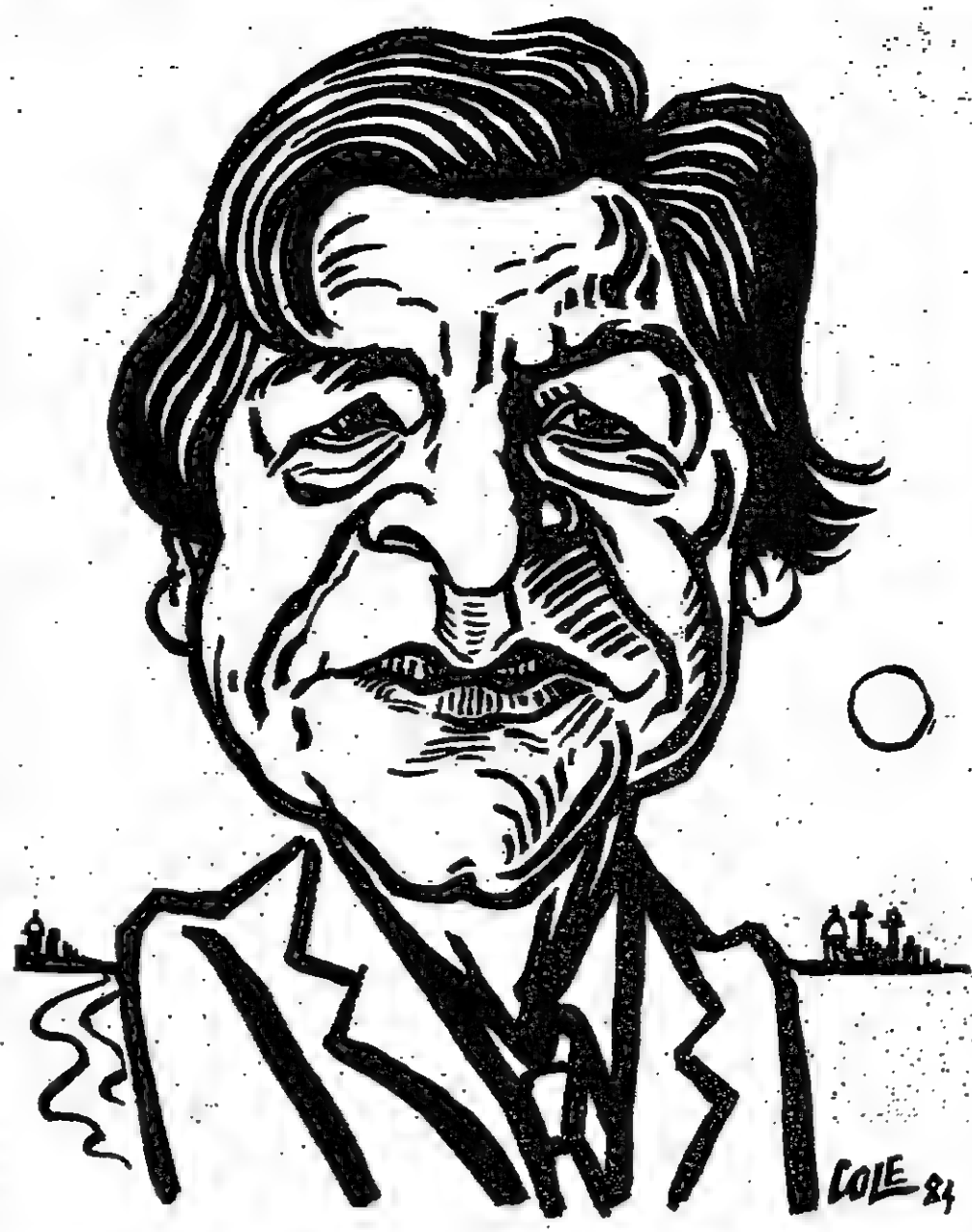
Naipaul's enquiries into Ivory Coast magic remind him of the role of African magic in the slave plantations of the Caribbean, where the white man might be ruler by day, but the night belonged to the magicians, to the African heritage. And sure enough, it is not long before he finds the same attitude on the Ivory Coast. He is told: "The world of white men is real. We black Africans we have all that they have — meaning aeroplanes, cars, rockets, lasers, satellites — we have all of that in the world of the night, the world of darkness."

And there are Africans, he is told, who can convert themselves into pure energy.

Such an African might say "Let me be for a while." But when after second or so of concentration he came to again, he might give you news of Paris. Because in that time he had been to Paris and come back; and he had talked to people in Paris.

The excitement for Naipaul is that this derives from the fact that it puts him in direct contact with the Caribbean slave mentality of 200 years ago. "Djédjé said, 'Without civilization, everyone would be a sorcerer'."

Naipaul's gloss on this remark of his guide — "It was his vision of chaos: a world without reason or rules" — reflects a consideration close to his heart. In the first essay "Prologue to an Autobiography" we learn about Naipaul's own efforts at becoming an author and about the source of this early ambition, his father, Naipaul senior, the model for Mr



Biswas, had been a journalist on the Trinidad *Guardian*. The reader may remember that in the case of Mr Biswas the ambition to write had been encouraged by a single editor, and had been discouraged by every act of the envious Tulsis (excepting at such moments as they perceived material profit). It appears that, in real life, Naipaul senior came

into direct conflict with family interests as a reporter; and that the family did for him.

Naipaul senior was critical of orthodox Hindu practices (like Mr Biswas, he was sympathetic to a group called Arya Samaj, who were against caste and pundits and in favour of the education of girls). When an outbreak of paralytic rabies among the cattle led to the

villagers sacrificing goats to the black mother-goddess Kali, he wrote a description of such a sacrifice calling it a superstitious practice. Ten days later he received a note in Hindi ordering him to perform such a sacrifice himself or he would die within a week. Naipaul junior is convinced that this threat came from the ruling circle of the family. It terrified his father.

who eventually performed the required ceremony but lost the balance of his mind as a result. "He looked into the mirror one day and couldn't see himself. And he began to scream."

The reason why this story was not used in *A House for Mr Biswas* is that, at the time of writing, Naipaul junior was completely unaware of it. Mr Biswas as a family saga, is thematically the precise opposite of *Buddhism*. In Mann's novel we begin with a great house and family into which the germ of artistic endeavour is introduced. But art is seen as a kind of decadence. The artistic son cannot fulfil his father's only his mother's ambitions. In *Mr Biswas* we have, until the end, no house, no establishment. The hero lives on the verge of spiritual and material extinction. But he writes his way out of the crisis as a journalist, and would do so as an artist if he could.

Mann's idea that art is decadent is itself a decadent idea. The very nature of intelligence presents special difficulties for the historian because, contrary to popular mythology, it consists of a massive accumulation of trivial details. Although Professor Hinsley and his colleagues relegate a lot of this detail to 27 appendices, their narrative is perforce a mosaic which taxes the reader's staying power. It is therefore all the more to their credit that their volumes are so fascinating. The present volume must have been the most difficult to write since the period it covers is bare of Great Events. The Stalingrad battles are over. North Africa has been cleared. The U-boats, although still at large and dangerous, have passed their peak with the breaking of their Enigma key in 1942.

In 1943 the champions of heavy bombing were still hoping to win the war on their own. But Ultra showed that the bombs were still scoring far more misses than hits. It cast heavy doubts on Bomber Command's belief, shared for a time by the Air Staff, that German morale was cracking; and it showed that German aircraft production was rising throughout this period. It showed too that the American daylight raids in 1943 and the British night raids in Berlin early the next year were both allied defeats in the sense that the losses suffered were incommensurate with the damage inflicted. And, to take a final and completely different example, it showed early in 1942 that in Yugoslavia (a very obscure area at this date) Mihailovic and Tito were fighting, one another, and, in 1943, that the former was collaborating with the Italians and subsequently with the Germans also. These disclosures swung the British government to Tito's side in the acrimonious debates in London and Cairo about whom to back.

Finally, the Germans remained full of invention: they pioneered bombs and rockets controlled by pilots, by radar, new types of aircraft including the rocket propelled Me 163, new big U-boats with torpedoes, and of course the V-weapons with which Hitler hoped to flatten London and force Britain to capitulate by the end of 1943. (Churchill was so alarmed that he considered the use of gas in retaliation.) The radio controlled missiles came as a nasty surprise to the allies — and to the Italians whose Battleship Roma was sunk by one — but otherwise intelligence did a good job.

Official History does not have a good name. It conjures up a vision of ponderous volumes written behind closed doors with more than a touch of unreadability and propaganda. The British Official History of the Second World War, which now runs to something like a hundred volumes, believes this prejudice, and the present volume is a work of high literary quality in the best traditions of English historical scholarship.

More is not what I really wanted with *The Diamond Waterfall*, by Pamela Haines (Collins, £9.95). It's a very long book, covering the period between 1887 and 1945: the stage, the nobility, and gentry, illegitimacy, sexual perversion, lovers, a murder, and the diamond waterfalls itself, an amazing piece of jewellery stretching from neck to waist, which seems to bring the worst of bad luck.

# Ne plus Ultra world war

BRITISH INTELLIGENCE

IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR

Its Influence on Strategy and Operations

Volume Three, Part I

By F. H. Hinsley, with E. E. Thomas, C. F. G. Ransom, and the late R. C. Knight

HMSO, £17.95

This third and penultimate volume covers the period from the middle of 1943 to the middle of 1944. An initial chapter on strategic assessment is followed by four parts dealing with the Mediterranean and Italy, the war at sea, the air war, and V-weapons.

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Peter Calvocoressi

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# On the head of the coming generations

*Delicia matutina mimeritis* (children paying (though rarely joining) for the iniquities of their parents) is one of the classic themes in literature. Certainly the bandwagon was already comfortably filled when old Horace jumped aboard. But there's still room for late arrivals, including the authors of an interesting quartet of new novels.

I give Sheila MacLeod pride of place, not just through admiration for her earlier books (especially *The Art of Starvation*, with its harrowing account of anorexia nervosa), but because the children she is concerned with are very much flavour of the week. They are the offspring of the generation which turned out in the late nineteenth-sixties, that bizarre period so vividly recalled by Rosie Boycott in an extraordinary new autobiography, *A Nice Girl Like Me* (Cham & Windus, £8.95).

Actually Miss MacLeod's anti-heroine is a year or two senior to her sisters who womanhood the barricades in 1968. By then Claudia was already married to rock star Dorian Grey. But their life style and their approach to child rearing, was as radical as it was chic. By 1979, however, the rock caravan has long since moved on, leaving Dorian with neither the money nor the adulation his considerable ego demands. An anonymous phone call finally convinces Claudia, who is not celebrated for her decisiveness, that she has had enough of Dorian's fibbing and philandering. So she kicks him out of the marital home, leaving him to explain what is happening to their teenage children, Josh and Matilda. He does so over tea at the Ritz, characteristically more upset at not being recognized than by what he has to tell them.

The following year is described from the viewpoints of both mother and daughter, with frequent flashbacks to show how the decline of the Grey family coincided with the puncturing of the Forever Young generation's bubble. Present miseries leave the older Greys with little time to reflect on where they went wrong. But Claudia at least knows that all is not well. She watches her friends being exploited and betrayed by their children, but fails to notice what is happening to her own.

*Lionel* is a grim story, told with implacable bitterness. The characters are well-drawn but universally unappealing. What Miss MacLeod offers is a nightmarish vision of how it feels to be an involuntary dropout, not so much unemployed as unemployable. In a week in which we have learned that one young Mercedes in two may have used heroin, it is no small achievement to convince us that the forces that lead Josh and Matilda towards the needle are as comprehensible and compelling as those which direct their mother's hand

## FICTION

John Nicholson

### AXIOMS

By Sheila MacLeod

Quaker, £7.95

### SISTERS BY RITE

By Joan Lingard

Hamish Hamilton, £8.95

### THE SUMMERHOUSE

By Val Mulken

John Murray, £7.95

### IN THE PALOMAR ARMS

By Hilma Wolitzer

Harvill Press, £8.95

towards the nearest bottle of supermarket plonk, whenever superman pain threatens.

In Northern Ireland the late nineteenth-sixties saw the reemergence of an old pain. Joan Lingard's *Sisters by Rite* opens with a typically senseless 1970 doorstep killing — the wrong brother is shot — which reunites three women who have not seen each other since Coronation Year. Rosie, Teresa, and Cora, from Protestant, Catholic, and Christian Science backgrounds, were brought up during the Second World War and its aftermath, when it was still possible — just — for three such families to live in the same East Belfast street. The story of their friendship, which survives strong family pressures as well as the conventional storms and rivalries of adolescence, provides a wry and convincing context in which Miss Lingard enhances her formidable reputation as a witty and thoughtful commentator on Northern Irish affairs.

Val Mulken on the other hand is a Dubliner through and through. Her new book is set in the Southern garrison town of Fermoy where four generations of O'Donoghue are reunited every summer in the house built years before by Old Man O'Donoghue. The family's loves and hatreds — mainly the latter, since the older O'Donoghues are not much given to charitable thoughts — are described by five different narrators. The device isn't entirely successful, but Miss Mulken is an engaging writer whose book is essential holiday reading for family saga fans.

The power of the family to preserve itself is the theme of Hilma Wolitzer's fourth novel, *The Palomar Arms* of the title is an old people's home in California, where a young Daphne Moss works as a kitchen attendant while dreaming of her boy-friend, whizzkid accountant Kenny Bannister. Unfortunately Kenny has a wife, whom he is quite happy to desert, and two children, whom he is definitely not prepared to lose. A familiar tale but told here with verve and conviction until the final act, which is a shade melodramatic. Read it though, for the skill with which Miss Wolitzer describes the world of the very old as well as for her understanding of the power and very young have to shape family life.

# Splendid regiment of wimmin

Fiona MacCarthy

## THE WEAKER VESSEL

Woman's Lot in Seventeenth Century England

By Antonia Fraser

Widenfeld & Nicholson, £12.95

independent women, Antonia Fraser's heroines. As wars have often shown, women have it in them to be "Great Heroics" too; and the Civil War, an especially disruptive one to ties of home and family, threw women into very unaccustomed situations, at their most dramatic in the absence of their husbands as defenders of their castles, showering down stones and hot embers from the battlements. The War undoubtedly went to women's heads. Women preachers multiplied, and female spies and women warriors. The Gallant She-Soldiers, women dressed in men's apparel, were folk-heroes of the time, incontrovertible correctives to traditional pictures of a woman as fearful as a hare and starting at the noise of Pougons. As women began "to Swagger, to Swear, to Game, to Drink, to Revel, to make Factions", the situation threatened to get wholly out of hand.

The making of Factions was especially significant. Acts of individual courage had given women confidence to act collectively. To march, to plead, to harangue and to petition. Politically speaking, women's power was enlarging. And they

know it: when one member of parliament dismissively told a deputation of women at the House of Commons in 1649 that "it was not for women to Petition, they might stay at home and wash the dishes" he had laid himself open to a very caustic answer. Once the men came home and the apocalyptic speeches of the innumerable newly-sprung-up female seers, which had so astonishingly been allowed to interrupt even the council of Cromwell and his army, died away in the years which followed Restoration, life went back to normal, as it usually does. And normality implying the return of widespread pregnancy, such a turn of events was seized on by the midwives, those key figures of that period, who had a vested interest in the promulgation of the Fruitful Wombs-but-Barren-Brains philosophy, with a delight that may be verged on the indecent.

This is a work of great technical assurance. Antonia Fraser's books have up to now been focused on single power-figures. It was during research for her biography of Cromwell that — with a touch of that good management and foresight of some of the model housewives she describes — she started taking notes about the women of the period, a project which expanded more and more as she went on. Compared with a biography, in which the shape is relatively ready-made, a huge historic panorama with a mass of female characters is very much more difficult to organize and motivate. This she achieves with extraordinary skill. Apart from a few passages in which invention falls her — "There was", she informs us, with unusual maiden-auntness, "a pretty-to-do in May 1667" — she writes with a consistent warmth, wit, modesty, conviction on a subject which will be a revelation to almost anyone.

W. Heaton Cooper has performed the same artistic service for the Lake District Fells as Lowry did for Lancashire millscapes, and Roland Hilder for the rolling farmland in the South. He not only gives them identifiable shape in the paintings, but also captures their character, atmosphere and subtlety of colour. "They are my old friends whom I can recognise from all kinds of odd viewpoints" he writes in *Mountain Painters* which is a picture of his life. He has worked conscientiously in the Lakeland Fells for some 45 years; up at the crink of dawn to some eerie light gives a fresh perspective and quality of light to a particular scene.

## Lake District through artist's eyes



Langdale Pikes from Lingmoor. On the left, the design; on the right, the first of eleven paintings Heaton Cooper did of the same subject: "A pyramid suggests strength, a spiral suggests movement, and a right angle, calm."

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## MOUNTAIN PAINTER

by W. Heaton Cooper

Frank Peters, Kendal, £18.95

Ronald Faux

There are the Lion and Lamb rocks above Grassmere frozen in winter; brooding hills washed with sombre greys and slow-moving clouds and lakes that stretch out in the haze of a high summer day. This is a handsome book, finely illustrated by a man who could not care more for his subject. Even at the age of 89 his eye remains acutely alert to fleeting shifts of light and his visual memory is as keen as

# Strange eventful assorted history

David Cook (author of *Il'alter* and its sequel *Winter Doves*) has turned to the historical novel in *Sunrising* (Secker & Warburg, £8.50). Set in the troubled period of 1830, John and Cath, both in their teens are wanderers, caught up by chance, or fate, or sheer bad luck, in a riot which leads to John's death by hanging. Cath, pregnant and destitute, is rescued by two small boys, one already devoted to religion, the other a beautiful 11-year-old innocent. Their wanderings around the countryside, to London and even to the slums of St Giles (including a horrible kidnapping into a brothel stocked with children) seem to have accumulated a great deal of research into authentically without providing either a genuine narrative or any really well defined characters.

● Catherine Cookson in *The Black Velvet Gown* (Hutchinson, £8.50) has a story telling gift that would suit a runaway train. Once again with the poor and desperate in the 1830s, Riah Millican, widow of a miner, with four children, is turned out to starve. By the kindness of strangers, she becomes housekeeper to a recluse who asks nothing but that the children be kept out of his sight. He relents, and educates the children above their station in life. Biddy, the eldest girl, is a beauty. Sent as laundrymaid (the lowest of the low) to the big house, her intelligence and her looks cause trouble. With this is the secondary theme of a mother-daughter relationship. Catherine Cookson has no illusions about the class system — though Biddy manages to achieve

happiness and success, she will never be accepted by the gentry, and always resented by her own people. ● Rhona Martin won the first George Martin prize in 1978 with *Gallows Wedding*, and *The Unicorn Summer* (*The Bodley Head*, £7.95) is a continuation. The years have passed into the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and two of the lesser characters from *Gallows Wedding* step forward — Joanna, who fled her home as a child, and Angel, son of a servant girl and perhaps the bastard of Joanna's father. Joanna seeks revenge, and her life is devoted to causing the death of her stepfather, and Angel seeks escape from a loveless existence in the country, where he may have caused the death of a man. Rhona Martin has a vivid descriptive gift, and the underworld of London comes to life, smelly life. Though there is a love story, it's really a hate story, powerfully told, with an open ending.

● More is not what I really wanted with *The Diamond Waterfall*, by Pamela Haines (Collins, £9.95). It's a very long book, covering the period between 1887 and 1945: the stage, the nobility, and gentry, illegitimacy, sexual perversion, lovers, a murder, and the diamond waterfalls itself, an amazing piece of jewellery stretching from neck to waist, which seems to bring the worst of bad luck.

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## BRITISH INTELLIGENCE

IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR

F. H. Hinsley

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# Pensions

The debate over pensions gathers pace. In a time of rapid change, new views are being heard on early leavers, 'portability', and the pension rights of women. With a rising proportion of the old in the population and the increasing burden of pension provision on public funds, we examine aspects of the problem that will eventually affect every man, woman and child in the country

THE pensions industry is in a state of turmoil as it faces challenges from all quarters. Members want better value for money; the Government wants to cut its own commitment to state pensions and hand over some of the responsibility to the private sector; a debate is raging over how much occupational pensions schemes should be statutorily required to provide for job changers; and there is little doubt that the Treasury is seeking ways to reduce the enormous drain on the Exchequer brought about through the tax privileges enjoyed by the industry.

The industry, meanwhile runs around like a chicken with two heads, not knowing which way to turn. If there were any hopes that it would be spared the fiscal roughing-up meted out to the insurance companies by the Chancellor's removal of life assurance premium relief (LAPR) in the last Budget, those hopes must by now have been dispelled.

In a toughly worded warning to the industry, the Conservative MP, Robert McCrindle, a pensions expert, spelled out precisely what lies ahead. Exploitation of every tax loophole and the abuse of loanbacks on personal pension plans and the like will incur the wrath of the powers that be.

Mr McCrindle said that when he asked the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, John Moore, for assurances that mortgage interest relief and pensions tax relief would not be treated in the same way as LAPR, he was told that though Mr Moore was prepared to give those assurances over home loans, he would not commit himself on pensions.

Estimates have put the cost of tax relief to the pensions industry as high as £3,000m a year compared with a total of only £700m for life-assurance relief.

New money invested in

personal pensions has gone up from £40.5m to £482m in 1983 and with the unexpected removal of life assurance relief, neither the investing public nor the insurance companies wants to be caught unawares again. This year is likely to be a boom year for pensions with individuals paying the maximum in back years contributions rather than miss out on tax relief a second time round.

A government inquiry sits taking evidence from a host of interested parties on what should be done about transferability of pension rights — long a source of aggravation because of the detrimental effects the current system has on mobility of labour.

The conclusion reached by the Occupational Pensions Board when it investigated the problem was that transferability between widely varying occupational pensions schemes was just not feasible. The best that could be done was to ensure that job-leavers' frozen pension benefits were upgraded by a reasonable amount in between leaving the employment and retirement age.

This went down badly with most pension funds. They have long kept contribution rates as low as possible by subsidizing pensions in payment from the contributions of early leavers. The pension funds have protested that they cannot afford to increase benefits to early leavers without either cutting pensions to those who stay or increasing contributions.

This is looking increasingly like a feeble excuse. A recent survey by the stockbrokers Wood MacKenzie revealed that the average return on pension funds investments over the past five and eight years was running at a rate of 7 per cent above the rate of inflation. The survey covers 836 UK pension funds with assets of £64,000m — more than 60 per cent of all pension fund assets.

The Government's preoccu-



pation with pensions does not, however, stop with the question of transferability. Last year the cost of State pension provisions touched £1,334m with civil service and local government pensions adding £4,420m to the bill.

A complete review of pensions and how best to provide for the old is under way, chaired by Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services.

Insurance companies which are big in personal pensions but manage very little occupational pension fund money are pressing for employees to be given greater freedom to make their own pension arrangements.

The National Association of Pension Funds has opposed such

a change because money would inevitably leave the pension funds of its members, thereby diminishing their power.

The state earnings-related pension scheme, which becomes fully matured at the turn of the century, is another cause of concern to the Government: there are many who agree with John Kay, director of the Institute for Fiscal Studies, who argues that the concept of giving more to those who earn most is not only unfair, but does little to relieve real poverty in old age. He believes that the scheme should be scrapped and the money saved used to boost the basic state pension. Earnings related pensions are costing £87m in the current year compared with £13,500m for the basic state pension but they

will equal expenditure on the basic state pension by 2030.

Pressure is growing from both men and women members of pension schemes to equalize pension ages.

But perhaps the biggest incentive for change remains one of cost. The cost of tax relief on pension fund contributions, depending on how you calculate it, ranges from a minimum £1,000m a year to more than £3,000m a year and rises.

Add to this the cost of state and civil service pensions and the Government is, not surprisingly, concerned that the burden is too great.

Lorna Bourke

## Special schemes — the in-house answers to a director's prayer

Special schemes for small companies are 10 years old this month. The directors of small companies (who usually own or control the shares of the company) are now enjoying the benefits of pension schemes which until 1973 which were limited to the directors and employees of only the larger, usually public, companies.

And not only do they now provide for the usual benefits, such as pensions of up to two thirds final salary and tax-free lump sums of up to four times salary on death-in-service. The schemes also anticipate the benefits to be offered by the 'portable pensions' movement which is now gathering momentum, and on which the government is due to pronounce in the near future.

Known technically as 'small self-administered' pension schemes for controlling directors, these are now an established species of pension scheme. The last year has seen a rapid advance in their number.

Why have they become so popular in so short a space of time? First, they offer much better value for money than the previous arrangements, which required a director of the company to provide for his pension with an insurance company.

He could only pay (at that time) up to 15 per cent of his income, which was usually grossly insufficient to make adequate provision, and with investments limited to those offered by insurance companies, even those payments would offer a slim return.

The joy of a director's company scheme (often called 'in-house' schemes) is that it enables the director to avoid the horrific expense loadings of insurance companies and intolerable surrender values. Not only that, but he could enjoy the growth of his investments without sharing them with an insurer, and decide for himself where the investments were placed.

Second, the management of the scheme is simple. Very little administration is necessary, especially where the members of the scheme are only the directors and perhaps members of the family.

Third, small schemes are flexible. If the company suffers a lean year it can waive the contributions until it is feeling in a better state of health — and

in many cases can even arrange a loan from its own pension scheme.

With all these benefits, it is not surprising that many smaller companies have decided to establish their own in-house scheme.

Many advisers suggest that small schemes can incidentally help in CTT planning and CGT planning — by paying pension benefits, the nominal value of the company is reduced, with consequent reductions in potential CTT, without losing control of the company.

Pension schemes can also be used in take-over planning — there is no objection to a pension scheme holding shares in the company, if that is what the trustees (who are also usually the directors) want — provided the normal trust rules and requirements are followed.

Are there any drawbacks? The biggest disincentive to establishing such a scheme is fear of the unknown — the worry that the bank manager will not

Chancery Lane, WC2: a list of actuaries from the Association of Consulting Actuaries is at Metropolis House, 39 Tottenham Court Road, London W1.

Fees vary considerably; some are straight charges on the funds under management; others range from the lower end at around £2,500 to the upper at about £15,000, much depending on the skill of the adviser, the potential complexity of the client's problems, and the extent of the services offered.

But since the benefits are so significant, and the fees in relation to insurance company fees relatively minor, the fees do not usually deter the potential owner of an 'in-house' scheme.

Small scheme investment is also now a simple matter. The last year has seen a new range of services being offered to the directors in small schemes. And with index-linked bonds, with the possibility of investing in housing, one of the new growth areas, with the opportunity of just leaving it in the bank or building society, the problems of investment usually require no more than the application of an hour or two every six months.

At least every three years a report on the progress of the scheme must be submitted to the Inland Revenue. But that is usually the extent of the detailed work that the company need concern itself with. Almost without exception, those companies who have trodden the route have found themselves satisfied and pleased with the outcome.

Small schemes have also received political favour this year, having been recognised as the ultimate in portable pensions. Current government efforts to 'de-institutionalise' the very large insurance companies and pension funds, so as to give more responsibility to individuals, the future of the in-house scheme seems at present rosy.

It satisfies the needs of the Government in providing small venture capital, in individual responsibility in investment management, and provides not least pensions to relieve increasing pressure on the state — whose own pension benefits are widely predicted to be reduced substantially. For many smaller companies, in-house schemes have proved the answer to a director's prayer.

Robin Ellison

The neglected tax benefit: Page 14

Solutions for the self-employed: Page 14

Maybe you can take it with you: Page 15

Why all women are not equal: Page 15

understand why nominal profits have fallen, the worry that the administration of 'pensions' (which has brought a red mist over the eyes of many directors who are skilled in their own work but fear the technicalities of another), and the fear of managing investments.

These fears, once they are faced, tend to disappear especially where an expert is retained to show the way.

In the pensions field as in so many others, it is preferable to be guided by professionals who charge a fee, rather than an adviser who may be persuaded by commission or a share of the funds under management.

A number of solicitors and actuaries have now begun to specialise in such work. A list of solicitors who carry out pensions work can now be obtained from the Law Society, 113

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**"Portable pension scheme launched by Save & Prosper"**  
(Financial Times 12th October 1983)

**"The portable gets plugged in..."**  
(Daily Telegraph 15th October 1983)

**"Pensions for early leavers"**  
(Western Mail 22nd October 1983)

**"All-in-one personal pensions"**  
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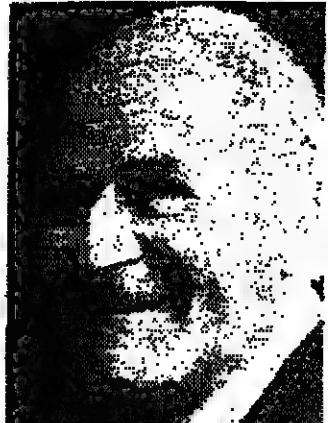
سازمان امور مالیاتی



## PENSIONS

## Should the watchdog have a louder bark?

Jacintha Worth talks to Henry James, right, the first director general of the National Association for Pension Funds (NAPF), which makes representations on behalf of occupational pension schemes to government, Inland Revenue and any other body involved with pensions



a simple slogan which is well understood by the press and politicians. It is difficult to eradicate the impact," he says. "It takes a good slogan to say you can do better on your own but there is no slogan saying occupational pensions are good for you."

He does not accept that the NAPF reacted slowly to the early leaver problem and so left the back door open for portability radicals to creep in.

The final irony was that the more radical portability proposals came from the supposedly safe right wing and not the left wing, who now seem to defend the status quo. Mr James, who spent his previous career as a civil servant, is moved to make a political point: "It is inconceivable to any of us that a government dedicated to non-intervention should be intervening in what is essentially a private contract between employer and employee under trust law."

Portability has highlighted what everyone in the occupational-pensions business is quick to say: it is easy for pensions to become a political

football. It has brought to the fore the multitude of interests that exist in the wider pensions industry. Indeed it might be thought the NAPF tries to represent too wide a body of interests. At a time of rapid change this must hinder the organisation from protecting itself against attacks. Mr James is adamant that the NAPF is the most-representative voice of the pensions movement. "We represent well over 75 per cent of members of pension funds."

He insists there is no conflict of interest in claiming to represent, for example, both employers and employees: "The job of the fund manager is to represent the interests of the fund members to management, to seek resources," Mr James says. "He is an advocate and a supplicant. There is no more conflict of interest than with any other professional adviser in a company."

In this time of flux the director general sees the state of the occupational pensions movement as being in partnership with government. "One of the things some Conservative MPs fail to understand is that in

practice the pension funds are in the private sector. They tend to see them as public sector because they are paternalistic. well, I am in favour of paternalism."

He acknowledges that the concept of a pension granted by the employer is old-fashioned and slightly nineteenth century but this is what members want, he says. "I favour the paternalism of the state as a safety net at the bottom with the occupational pension movement as an additional safety net raising the Pimms line."

What total pensions provision is should be a decision for society, he argues. Pension managers are professional advisers whose job it is to warn government and society of the consequences of certain actions and principles. "Our fundamental objective is simple, to provide the best pensions for the majority of people."

The view of a pensions manager as a disinterested professional adviser is central to the way the NAPF sees its role in the City and in the wider economy. Pension funds own vast resources, some put the figure at over £100 billion. In some cases the pension fund will be anything from 50 to 150 per cent the size of the parent company and after several years of good investment returns the funds continue to grow, many have healthy surpluses.

Nevertheless, Mr James argues that no common objective arises because of this - "we do not control any money at all. Harold Wilson saw us as a gigantic slush fund more powerful than any Chancellor of the Exchequer. But 90,000 funds cannot possibly act in concert to sway the economy. They are in competition with each other."

Of the role of the NAPF in the City he says: "It is an advisory role telling City institutions of the consequences of what they are doing. No more than that. It is hedged around with all sort of City constraints."

The pension funds provide a stabilizing force in the economy, Mr James points out, and in the realm of benefits they do the difficult job of defending the status quo.

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IT PAYS TO LISTEN TO EXPERTS.

## Losing out by leaving early

No pensions subject has generated such intensity of debate as the problem of the so-called early leaver - someone who has the temerity to change jobs before retirement age. The problem arises from the practice of private-sector pension schemes to base deferred pension benefits for the early leaver on the salary at the time of leaving with little or no allowance for inflation. If inflation were at, say, 10 per cent a year, the consequences of a job change could be drastic. Someone who changes jobs every 10 years will typically receive a pension of around four-tenths of the pension of a similar person who does not change jobs.

When final salary schemes became popular in the 1950s and 1960s, inflation was not recognized as a serious problem and little account was taken of the impact of early leavers on scheme finances. Rising inflation and rising interest rates

Investment Return%	Cost of a deferred Pension of £1,000 per year for a married 48
2	£8,311
4	£4,838
8	£1,753
12	£584
16	£284

meant, however, that the cost of deferred benefits fell sharply (see table).

The resultant windfall profits were like manna from heaven

for actuaries worried about the impact of rapid salary growth on the solvency of their schemes. Increasingly, actuaries allowed for these profits either explicitly or implicitly when assessing contribution rates. It follows that any action which would remove this so-called "withdrawal surplus" would increase contribution rates. Hence the strong opposition to any moves to improve the lot of

Continued on next page

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## PENSIONS

# Life gets easier for the self-employed

It is not much fun being self-employed - at least so far as pensions are concerned. First, the contributions are limited usually to 17.5 per cent of income - which, if contributions are started late, means a most inadequate pension. Second, the self-employed are not entitled to an earnings-related pension from the state.

But recent changes in the pension system for the self-employed have made life much easier. A principal reason is the withdrawal of relief on life assurance premiums in the last budget. Because of the withdrawal, the self-employed have been or are about to be, the target of tremendous marketing efforts by the life insurance companies.

Next, the increase, a few years ago, in the level of permitted contributions, and the abolition of the financial limit, has meant that pension benefits can now, in theory at

least, reach those of the employed. And finally, consumers are at last beginning to be offered the kinds of pension products that they actually need, rather than what was thought good for them.

The self-employed, especially those in partnership, can also thank the growing trend to privatisation which is somewhat surprisingly affecting pensions provision. Until recently, the overwhelming majority of private pension provision has been through insurance companies.

The prospect of portable pensions, (allowing other organisations as well as insurance companies, such as unit trusts) to participate in the market, and negating the requirement to use insurance companies, has yet to be decided by the current government inquiry. But there are even today a number of

fresh options open to the self-employed.

First, some insurance companies have this year begun to offer a special arrangement where the premiums are adequate for investments to be made "at the direction of the contributor". Some of these schemes are run in conjunction with stockbrokers, marking the first steps in the forthcoming probable destruction of the insurance monopoly.

Later schemes have demonstrated that the tremendous expense loadings can be avoided by the use of trust schemes or now more popularly in-house friendly societies. Provided there is a partnership of a least seven partners, the equivalent of a captive insurance company can be established just to provide pensions, and this friendly society (unaffected by the recent budget proposals) is becoming increasingly popular.

There is no limit on the benefits (the limit is on contributions) which can be taken from a self-employed scheme - it is therefore vital that every penny that is contributed is productive.

As a consequence, in the last few months in-house schemes have been developed which offer extremely low establishment and management costs, and many firms of actuaries, accountants and solicitors and other professionals are now investigating them.

An in-house scheme also enables setting-up expenses to be paid in addition to the 17 per cent relief, instead of it - which makes a significant difference to the eventual pension outcome.

Other benefits which are now being offered by pension schemes include "loanbacks", which have been heavily marketed, and are now part of most insurance pension policies, but

which are relatively rarely exploited in practice.

Since the demise of the "Westminster scheme" last year, loanback schemes have been developed with circumspection and now offer just one more borrowing facility, albeit usually an expensive one.

Much more popular in practice is the "pensions mortgage", which employs the fact that the part of the pension which can be commuted to a lump sum on retirement might be enough to pay off the capital borrowed under the mortgage. The advantage is that the interest only is paid to the building society; and the "capital" receives tax relief.

With the demise in the last budget of the dubious advantages of endowment mortgages, pension mortgages are seeing a revival.

The Government in its current fit of reforming zeal can be expected to reconsider some

of these options as part of its tidying-up of pensions rules relating to tax reliefs.

Many partnerships are taking a fresh look at the use of partnership annuities, not as frequently considered than they should be because they are internally funded (ie paid out of the earnings of the partnership) rather than externally (ie paid for in advance by contributions to a fund). Partnership annuities can provide, if funds are available, up to about half-final earnings, and can be index-linked.

The self-employed can expect to be at the forefront of concern for pension provision for the next few years. The only thing that is certain is that future provision for pensions for the self-employed will be very different from the present system.

Robin Ellison

## The neglected tax benefit

For tax efficiency few investments can compare with additional voluntary contributions to a pension scheme (AVC), yet they are extraordinarily little used. Maybe it is the name that puts people off, or the idea of saving for retirement. Maybe it is the fact that they can get at the money in the meantime.

The indications are that, according to a survey by the National Association of Pension Funds (NAPF) last year, only 8 per cent of the people who could put their money into AVCs did in fact choose to do so. The rest are missing something.

AVCs are a particularly good investment as such, although the returns from banks, building societies and insurance companies through an AVC scheme are almost certainly better than the individual could command in his (or her) own right. No, the beauty of the AVC lies in its

treatment by the Inland Revenue.

Under Revenue rules, anyone who belongs to an exempt approved pension fund can set aside up to 15 per cent of annual pay in pension contributions. Those contributions are made out of pre-tax income - ie, they qualify for tax relief at the contributor's highest rate, the returns that they earn within the fund are free of tax and the pension that is eventually paid will be treated as earned rather than unearned income. If a lump sum is taken in lieu of part of the pension, it can be taken entirely free of tax.

Most employees belong to a qualifying scheme, to which they may or may not have to

make contributions. But even if they do, those contributions generally amount to less than 15 per cent of their total remuneration. The extra can, in theory, be saved to boost the eventual pension benefits, by way of additional voluntary contributions.

In practice, this may not be quite so easy. The usual stumbling block is the company pension scheme itself, which may not have any provision for accepting AVCs - they have to be made through the scheme, not off the individual's own bat. (They are normally deducted from salary, like tax and National Insurance contributions.) In fact, the NAPF's 1983 survey - which covered

100 pension funds in the public sector, and, 1023 in the private sector - indicated that 86 per cent of all pension schemes do have facilities for accepting AVCs; with those that don't, all the members can do is argue for them.

There are, however, some Inland Revenue restrictions. First, the contributions have to be made on a regular basis. It is no use putting in so much one year, then deciding against a contribution the next. Contributions are normally made monthly or weekly, but all the Inland Revenue stipulates is that for at least five years - although the Revenue does not push this requirement when an individual within a year or so of retirement suddenly finds that his pension is going to be too low for comfort, and decides that additional voluntary contributions are the answer. Nor is there likely to be a problem when someone who has started to make contributions suddenly finds himself made redundant, well short of retirement age, and cannot keep the payments up. But anyone who tries to make a one-off payment in a good year

is likely to have his tax relief withdrawn.

The benefits cannot be claimed until the contributor reaches retirement age. The benefits are paid out through the company pension scheme, just as the contributions are paid in - although in the meantime, the amount that is paid in AVCs will be kept separate from the rest of the fund. That means that if the pension fund itself runs into problems - which is highly unlikely, but not impossible - there will be no call on the AVCs to make up deficiencies elsewhere. It also means that the individual contributor can take his AVCs with him, involuntarily, if he changes jobs; out of this part of his pension savings, at least, he won't have to make the usual (involuntary) contribution to the pensions of the long stayers. And it means that he may have some say over the way in which the money is invested.

How much say really depends on the extent to which the pension fund manager is prepared to mess about with the

administration of individual investments. The highest proportion of AVC money is invested with insurance companies either into deferred annuities, or into their managed funds (gilt, property, equities or whatever). Building societies have been making a strong play for this kind of business too, and a clutch of them - the Halifax, Abbey National, Woolwich and Bristol & West - now handle amounts of AVC money. Because it is stable, and regularly augmented by new contributions, they pay a much higher rate on AVC funds than they do on most of their money and, of course, the money is allowed to roll up gross.

Around 25 per cent of AVC money, however, is privately invested - at the discretion of the pension-fund manager. In at least one case, that money goes directly into stocks and shares selected by the contributors themselves. If the Fowler committee, as expected, recommends changes in the administration of pension funds to provide members with more responsibility for their own investments, that form of investment could become more widespread.

Adrienne Gleeson

## Helping the early leavers

Continued from previous page  
the unhappy job changer. Furthermore, employers not unnaturally feel little sympathy for those who leave their service.

The sharp fall in inflation has raised the possibility of a fairly permanent fall in interest rates to levels where pension funds will no longer make significant profits from early leavers. There is thus the possibility that falling inflation will both ameliorate the position of the early leaver and cause an increase in pension-scheme contribution rates.

Against this background, the

last Labour government, as part of the requirements for contracting out of the upper tier of the state pension scheme introduced in 1978, required that private-sector schemes index-link that portion of an early leaver's benefits which was equivalent to the pension he would have received from the state. This change, though destined to have a major impact in the long term, did little to reduce public pressure mainly because pre-1978 benefits were unaffected but also because post-1978 benefits over and above the guaranteed minimum were also excluded.

The present government, though loathe to legislate, issued a Green Paper last November which proposed legislation in 1984 requiring schemes to increase deferred benefits over and above the guaranteed minimum (in respect of service after 1984) at a rate of 5 per cent a year between the date of actually leaving service and retirement age. This legislation, which seems certain to be enacted, will mean that, short of a rapid rise in inflation, the early leaver problem will cease to exist in respect of benefits earned in future. The historic problem, in respect of pre-1984 benefits, will remain.

The government actuary has estimated that the proposed legislation will increase pension scheme costs by around 1 to 2 per cent of payroll. The actual cost will of course vary widely depending on the way the scheme has treated early leavers in the past.

### Increased contribution for the young

There has been a suggestion that employees be required to meet the additional cost themselves or that overall benefit levels for the future service be reduced so that costs remain unchanged. On balance both courses seem improbable.

A more likely outcome is that contributions may be increased primarily for younger employees who have most to gain and who will tend to see themselves as likely early leavers.

Though the inevitability of legislation on this issue has caused a degree of planning blight, some practitioners have been active in seeking other solutions. Save & Prosper recently established a scheme for the Grimsby Fishing Vessel Owners Association which covered their 900-odd employees in such a manner that they could work for any of the vessel owners without loss of pension rights. An affinity group of this kind is rare because few employers share such common interests.

Perhaps the most significant development has been the so called Section 32 Contract (a reference to a provision in the 1981 Finance Act) whereby an early leaver, rather than transferring his benefits to his new employer, pays the transfer value to an insurer who issues a policy in his name. Because many scheme actuaries calculate transfer values using conservative interest rates such as 8 per cent, an insurance policy investing at current market rates is likely to show excellent (though unguaranteed) results.

### Howls of protest may continue

Certainly no job changer should accept either a deferred pension or a transfer to his new employer's fund without first investigating the possibility of a Section 32 contract.

Pension funds have enjoyed phenomenal investment returns in recent years - most should be in surplus. If trustees do not take the opportunity to improve the lot of their deferred pensioners they should not be surprised at continued howls of protest. No single issue has brought pension funds into such disrepute.

Graham Puttergill

The author is Chairman of Antony Gibbs Pension Services Ltd.

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Norman Fowler will soon announce the Government's views on portable pensions. Some pensions people are wondering whether they should prepare to meet their doom. Full portability - where people could switch from job to job without its affecting their company pensions at all - would turn the whole pensions business upside-down.

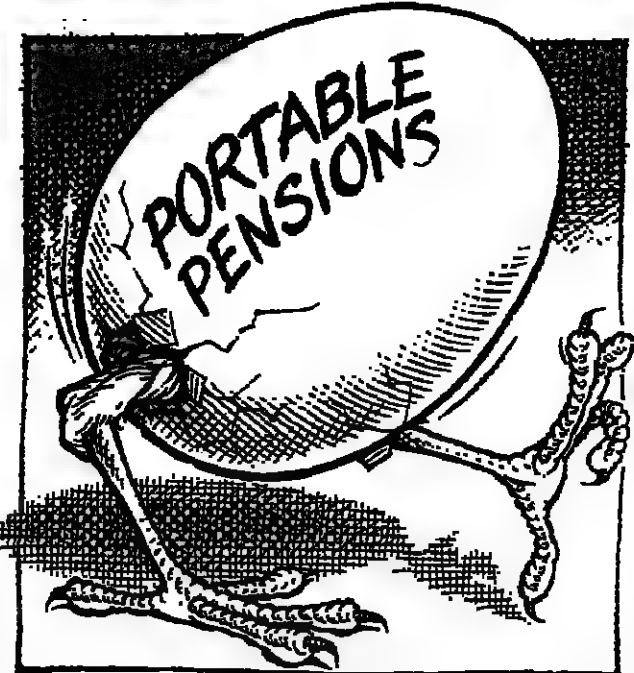
No one has long to wait. The government committee looking at the issue is due to reach its conclusions in a couple of months - though they will not be published. Mr Fowler will then mull them over, and finally announce how far he is prepared to go.

In Britain pensions began as a reward for long service, and though everyone still pays lip service to the idea that they are just deferred pay, the present penalties for changing jobs are considerable.

How do the present arrangements work? The law insists that every company running its own pension scheme should base it on final salaries. You and the firm pay contributions and the group then provides you with one sixtieth or one eightieth of your salary for each year of service.

The industry always stresses that if you work in the same firm for 40 years and its pension scheme is based on sixtieths of salary - you can retire on two-thirds of your final

## Maybe you can take it with you



pay. Pensions schemes can afford that only because few people stay that long. Leavers have a limited range of choices.

The first is to take their money and run, although that is possible for leavers under 26 who only have been with the firm for under five years. They have to fulfil both conditions to do it. In fact, it is the worst choice possible. The employers' contributions to the scheme remain firmly locked inside it.

Or you can leave all the contributions, from you and employer, where they are. If you worked for six years for a firm in the mid-1960s leaving on a salary of £2,500, you may have the right to only 6/60ths of that final salary - or £250. In most cases that figure is preserved in some form.

Few companies increase it or make any allowance for inflation although that may change.

Option three is to transfer your pension from old firm to new. Companies are not legally obliged to let you do that although almost all of them will.

All the same, both old firm and new will seek to limit their commitments. They like the Giant Procrustes who was famous in Greek mythology for lying tall travellers down on a

bed, and cutting off both heads and feet until they fitted exactly. The first actuary tries to transfer over as little money as possible, and the second to turn those funds into as few "back years" in the new pension scheme as possible. Work for one firm for 10 years, and it may be turned

into only two or three in the new one, depending on your age.

So you lose twice over. Some insurers now offer a home for transfer values which you take from your company as you leave it. They ensure that you only lose once, and returns are good.

The trouble is that you have no automatic right to choose the scheme. You can do so only if the pension schemes' rules allow it - and that option rarely suits your company, so it is rarely allowed.

The present choices are all unattractive - except perhaps the one that you probably are not allowed to make. The Centre for Policy Studies, in a report which set the whole issue going, infuriated the pensions establishment, by recommending that people should be free to join the company's pension scheme, or make their own arrangements. But they would have to do one or the other.

Presumably they could opt for self-employed pension schemes which work in money purchase principles. Contributions accumulate a pot of money, and eventually you turn that sum into pounds and pension at retirement. Clearly there is no link between pension and final salary.

Nigel Vinson, who wrote the CPS report, insists that he does not want to threaten final salary pension schemes. But the people to whom outside pensions would most appeal are men and women in their late twenties, who expect to move jobs many times in their career.

They do badly under present schemes and present schemes would do badly if they did not. Final salary schemes depend on young entrants subsidizing senior staff in the hope that they also will be subsidized in turn.

They allow people to make their own investment decisions, and act as entrepreneurs. Put like that, it sounds fine. But if the investments (made with full tax relief) go wrong, the pension could melt away. The government may have to make up for the fact with social security.

Mr Fowler may not go along the CPS's route - but he may insist that every company must give a transfer value if someone leaving the firm wants to have it. He could also ensure that people who want to transfer money into separate insurance accounts, are free to do so.

That is particularly important when staff are made redundant - or become self-employed - when they have no new pension scheme to which they can go.

If people transfer between one scheme and another, an official minimum formula for calculating transfer values would make a lot of sense.

Scrapping the present system and starting again looks appealing, but unlikely. Any changes the Government does bring in, though, will ensure that leavers do not get penalised as hard as they are at the moment.

Tom Tickell

## Women are equal - until they retire



Norman Fowler: started review

This leads to a further problem. When women ask for equality of benefits - automatic widowers benefits for example - they are often told they are costing far too much already. This is a largely emotional reaction because if they live longer than their husbands it follows that there will not be many widowers around to pick up any pension anyway.

At the moment the EOC is taking a case, Marshall v Southampton and the South West Hampshire Health Authority, to the European Court, challenging the employer's right to retire a woman worker at 60 while letting male colleagues work until 65.

The other major discrimination, apart from retirement age, is the problem of survivors' benefits. Some big occupational pension schemes now give a widower's pension automatically to survivors of female employees, but many more less generous pension funds (particularly those with a high proportion of women in the work force) do not. Statistics on this score can be misleading - but the suspicion is that most women in occupational pension schemes are not equal with men in this respect.

In some schemes, a woman with a husband who is sick, unemployed for a long time in some other way financially dependent of his wife have to "prove" this dependence in order to nominate the husband for a widower's pension. It is up to the trustees of the pension fund to decide. Women who have gone through this process think it very unfair when they have made equal contributions to pension fund and their male colleagues can secure these benefits for their families as a right.

Other areas that the EOC wants reviewed is the pension rights of part-time workers. The overwhelming majority of these are women in the UK, sitting in a job so that they can take care of their children as well. Many company pension schemes are believed to discriminate against this class of worker by excluding them from entry into the scheme. Though not specifically directed against women, it is women whom they mainly affect.

The key to the situation is undoubtedly the state pension scheme, which enshrines much of this discrimination - although it does, admittedly,

make it easier for women who have left work for some years to have children to notch up contribution for a full pension. But the UK's occupational pension schemes may well be required to reform themselves after an EEC directive which suggests basically that equal contributions should mean equal benefits.

By the end of 1985, if the pension funds comply, we could well see widowers' benefits being universally introduced.

along with equal transfer values for women members changing jobs and pension schemes, but equality will not always work to women's advantage. Women, for instance now do better than men, in cash terms, when they commute their pension - surrendering part of their entitlement for a lump sum. Because the woman's pension is reckoned, actuarially, to be more expensive in the long term, she will usually but perhaps not long get a higher price for her commuted pension rights.

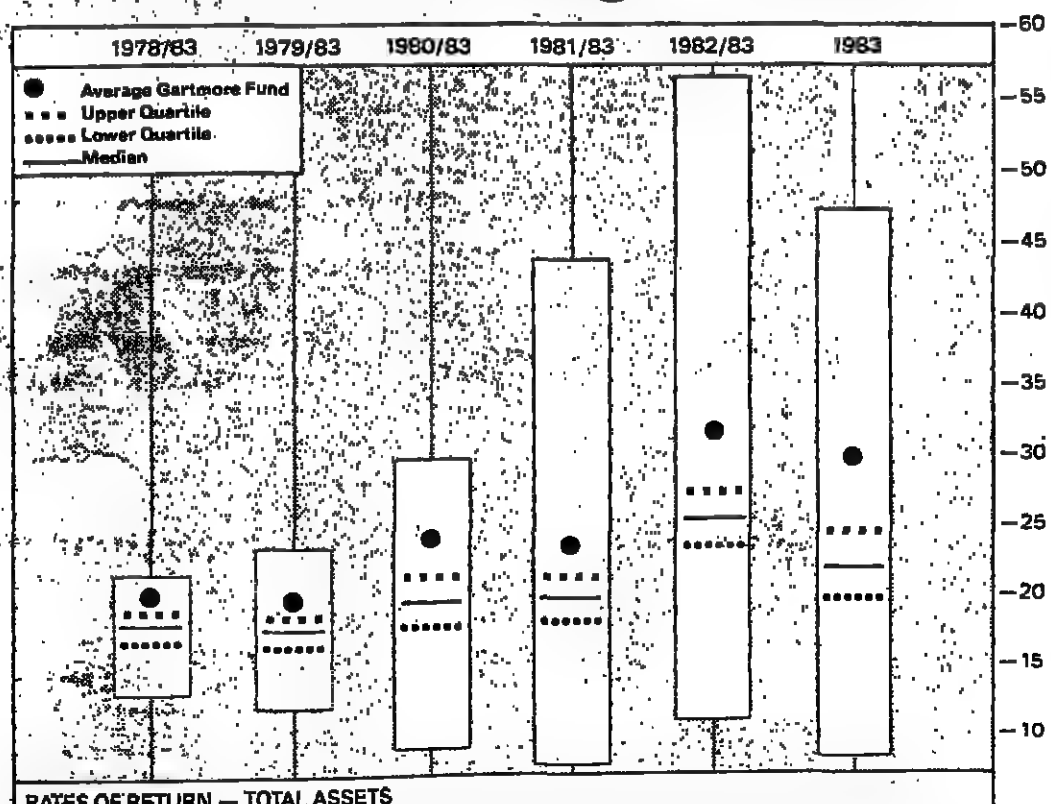
Maggie Drummond

Matters concerning death or retirement are specially excluded from both the Equal Pay and the Sex Discrimination Acts - although many people do not realize it. There is, as a result, widespread inequality of treatment between the sexes in both the state and many privately run pension schemes.

There are obvious examples of this discrimination, such as the difference in retirement age - 60 for women and 65 for men, which means that employers can insist that female employees retire five years early, against their will. There is the problem of survivors' benefits although most pension schemes automatically provide a pension for a widower of a male employee, fewer than half provide the same for the widower of a female employee. Less obvious, but just as important, is that the whole structure of pension schemes - in which you clock up entitlements for each year you work and those who stay in a job gain at the expense of those who leave - discriminates against the pattern of most women's working lives, where there is often a break, often a long one, to bring up a family.

Norman Fowler, Minister for Health and Social Services, has instituted a review of the workings of the state pension system and with pension rights more like those for men.

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But, you may already have reasoned, it must make sense to try and aim for a more comfortable standard of living than this can offer.

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The truth is the opposite. And, having taken a look at the chart, you might find that it comes as something of a shock.

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# THE TIMES DIARY

## Price of freedom

The heroes' welcome given to Julia Miles, wife of the British ambassador, and their four children on their return from the trauma of Tripoli was not made entirely at taxpayers' expense. The Treasury, Sir Geoffrey Howe's old department, will be glad to hear. After being whisked from the plane into a press conference at Gatwick, mother and children emerged exhausted at midnight.

To avoid travelling to Mrs Miles' mother's home in Oxford in the small hours, airline officials booked them into the Gatwick Hilton. Mrs Miles was agitated to be presented with a bill for £100 the next morning. "I thought it a bloody cheek," she tells me, "but I kicked up and we are going to be paid a subsidy." Now, while the Mileses' search for somewhere to stay, Whitehall has magnanimously offered the family an allowance - of £2 a night.

Mrs Miles was equally indignant yesterday over reports that the family's pet rabbit Honeybun was being flown home from Libya by the *Mail on Sunday*. "I only took it as a favour from someone who had rescued it from a Libyan butcher's shop. I'm terrified of the animal."

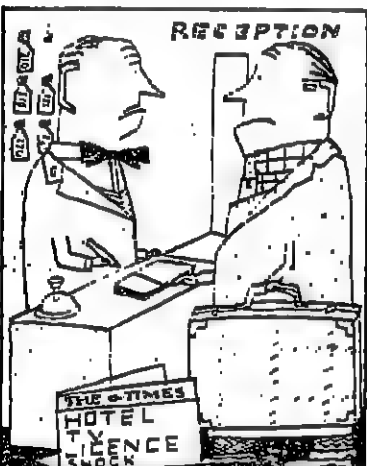
## Free speech

Now that "My dear Tiny" and "My dear Donald" have kissed and made up following, in Rowland's words, their "lover's tiff", Treford will be spared at least one public embarrassment. For his public lecture, delivered on May 15, marking Uppingham School's quatercentenary, he had elected to address the undisturbed on Freedom and Licence.

## Uncooperative

Gavin Laird, leader of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, threatens to sweep the TUC with a Thatcherite wind of economic realism. Now, while the TUC's private-sector rival, Laird yesterday announced the withdrawal of AUEW's business from the Co-operative Insurance Service, which handles almost half of the union's annual premiums, worth £118,000. "What the Co-op will have to learn is that we cannot deal on sentiment any longer: we live in a hard commercial world," he told me.

BARRY FANTONI



## Arms check

Rodney Rigby, stage manager of the Rodney gangster play *On the Spot*, opening at the Albany Theatre next Wednesday, was right on it himself when he left a theatrical props shop the other day with a dustbin bag full of replica 1920s pistols and shoulder holsters. His taxi was trailed by a panda car and when he got out he was questioned and searched. The two police officers even checked his arms for suspicious tattoos. Perhaps he should damp his dustbin liner for a diplomatic bag.

## Hands off

Inspired, I suspect, by the demolition of the Chinese Embassy's listed Adam building in Portland Place, the Save Britain's Heritage group has succeeded in upgrading the British-owned building opposite, at No 66, to a Grade Two Starred, making any alteration virtually impossible. Clearly the campaigners trust no one: the building is the HQ of the Royal Institute of British Architects. When I rang yesterday, director John Grigg said the upgrading was news to him, and rushed off to interrupt a special RIBA committee - which was busy discussing a plan to insert a new mezzanine floor in the headquarters.

## Blackhanders

The "black-lesbian-mothers-for-the-bomb" Greater London Council was accused yesterday of racism. The charge is made by the London Philharmonic Orchestra, which is outraged by a questionnaire the council plans to distribute to LPO concert-goers at the GLC-owned Royal Festival Hall. Among the 14 questions is: "How would you describe members of your family? European; Afro-Caribbean; Asian; American; Australasian; other." The LPO, just returned from a sell-out tour of Hong Kong and Japan, also accuses the GLC of class distinction by asking: "What is the occupation of the main wage earner in your household and in what type of service or industry does he/she work?" The GLC says the questionnaires will help with future concert planning.

PHS

# How the Ten can beat the terror

by George Walden

Unrealistic ideas are gaining ground in the wake of the Libyan atrocity. Every one agrees that something must now be done to prevent diplomatic abuse on this scale in future, and the British Government has boldly proposed revising the Vienna Convention.

But we should be aware of illusions. When would agreement be reached, and what do we do meantime? How effective would a revised convention be? And can any international agreement work without the sanction of collective political action? The cumbersome process of revision should be put in train at once. But the logic and urgency of the situation demand more immediate and practical action. That action can come only from Europe.

The task confronting the international lawyers is immense. Imagine 141 of them around one table, the technical complexity of the issues themselves, and the *arrivées* of certain less responsible states to any further revision of the convention's provisions. Many countries have a lot to hide. What would be the attitude of the communist states?

Of course the effort must be made. But with the best will in the world - which is likely to be lacking in obvious quarters - it could take many years to achieve. Time enough for many a new outrage, while the lawyers waltz on in Vienna.

And if agreement is achieved, what then? Libya signed the last agreement, and might sign the next one too. Enforceability would be the

key test. But the prospect of effective sanctions against offenders seems remote. The Russians would almost certainly veto firm action, just as they have so often done at the United Nations. Moscow's despicable distortions, and short-term attempts to ingratiate itself with Colonel Gaddafi, remind us that we are still dealing with a strangely immature power whose respect for diplomatic conventions seems in this instance on the same level as *Freddie's* respect for truth.

The illusion that if only you get the law right, the rest will follow, is questionable enough at home. Internationally, where the obstacles to enforcement are often overwhelming, the illusion can become dangerous. The Kellogg Pact signatories renounced war in 1928.

In reality, the effectiveness of such conventions depends on the political will of like-minded nations. Who is to exercise this will? Unfortunately we cannot expect too much from the UN, which too often remains no more than the sum of its components. Libya is one component.

So we are left with Europe. The EEC is not short of rhetoric about unity in defence of common values. It is civilised diplomatic intercourse between states is not a fundamental European value, what is? It was Grotius, a Dutchman and occasional diplomat, who laid the foundations of international law. It was Kant, a German, who dreamt of a "cosmo-

politan society" between nations - though he also had the sense to see that the "state of nature" would endure longer internationally than at home.

It was Satow, an Englishman, who codified diplomatic practice. It is not difficult to quote counter-examples. But essentially diplomacy, in its modern form, is largely a European invention. No one is better placed - historically, politically or morally - to take a stand in reasserting its values today.

The EEC has some experience of joint action to build on. The discreet but effective Trevi Group already helps to coordinate anti-terrorist strategy. Europe also performed creditably - despite some hiccoughs - in the American hostage affair in Iran. Surely it could do at least as well when similar situations arise on its own doorstep?

It would be wrong and self-defeating to set up over-rigid machinery. Each incident is different, and the Community might fight shy of operating it when the moment came. But coordinated action on an ascending scale is possible. It could begin with a declaration - itself timely following recent terrorist incidents in France and West Germany, as well as Britain - pledging the Ten not only to pursue revision of the Vienna Convention but to demonstrate effective solidarity against serious diplomatic infractions against any one of its number.

Action could start with joint approaches to the offender (surprisingly absent in the Libyan case), then range through collective restrictions on the embassies of the culprit in the EEC capitals; selective political or economic sanctions; and ultimately, in the most extreme cases, extend to the joint severing of diplomatic relations.

The obstacles are obvious. Some countries would have more to lose than others. But given sufficient European resolution, the full panoply of sanctions would rarely need to be implemented. It would also be difficult for Libya, or anyone else, to retaliate against 10 countries at once without incurring the full wrath of its own nose in the process. We should not underestimate the importance of Europe in the modern - and especially the Arab - world. But its weight is in direct proportion to its solidarity.

For some time the Community has been toying with the worthy but hardly pressing issue of setting up common missions in some Third World countries. Before joint diplomacy can be extended, what exists already must be defended. Britain, particularly after its cool handling of this latest crisis, is well placed to take an initiative. By proposing a revision of the Vienna Convention it has taken a first step. But regrettably, as the UN shows, the best intentions are of little value without political muscle - which is where Europe must come in.

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The author is a Conservative MP for Buckingham.

# When diversity must prevail

Continuing our series on Nato's 35th anniversary, Thierry de Montbrial warns of the dangers in seeking too rigid a unity



The transatlantic partnership is now more troubled than ever before. The Americans too often look down on the Europeans as free riders trying to shift the defence burden on to the United States while continuing to flirt with the Soviet empire.

Many Europeans see the Reagan administration as a highly dangerous group of people capable of putting the world on the verge of catastrophe. Will the whole international system break down? In theory, this could happen under three basic circumstances. First, a large-scale war. I believe that this is very unlikely. No western country would obviously take the risk, and Moscow probably knows that it might be the surest way of bringing the great communist adventure to an end.

However, an accident cannot be ruled out. One might occur if, for example, the Soviets yielded to an old temptation - to intervene in Iran. The second circumstance would be the internal collapse of one of the two main alliances. There is considerable speculation about the future of the Soviet Union itself. The internal difficulties of the country - economic and demographic problems, the different nationalities - should be neither overestimated nor underestimated.

Some very painful adjustments have to take place inside the USSR: although I believe that a real collapse will not occur within the next 20 years, more and more constraints are likely to limit its ability to practice a too ambitious foreign policy beyond its immediate borders. As for Eastern Europe, the Soviet leaders have learnt to manage the situation to their advantage, and I consider an explosion there, even in Poland, to be unlikely.

The situation with the western alliance is of course totally different; nobody would even consider the possibility of a US internal collapse. But should the Atlantic alliance fall apart, it would indeed change the international system overall. The probability of a limited war in Europe would increase sharply, the "Finlandization" of Germany, if not of Western Europe as a whole, would also surely be achieved in one or two decades.

In the long run, the blow to the United States could be mortal. The internal collapse of the Atlantic alliance could be the end point of a political process, but it could also follow from a degradation of the international economic system, especially if protectionism were to

prevail. In such an event, the Mutual Security Treaty between Japan and the United States might survive either. Japan could be tempted to shape a new model of its sphere of co-prosperity.

There is a third possibility for a big change in the international system - the irruption of one or more new poles. One can think *a priori* of three candidates: the big three Asian powers, China, India and Japan.

The first two have two of the main attributes of formidable superpowers: space and population. However, they are struggling with underdevelopment and internal political problems, and it is hard to imagine that they could, in the next 20 years, overcome them to the point that they could challenge more than marginally the United States and the Soviet Union. As for Japan, it obviously suffers from its territorial exiguity. But, more fundamentally, I do not think that it is ready to change its priorities unless it were forced to do so by a vast change in the international economic system.

This brief analysis leads, it seems to me, to a clear conclusion. Although the international system has experienced very dramatic changes in the last 35 years, its fundamental underlying bipolar structure - the dominance of the US and Soviet Union - has been preserved and is likely to survive for quite a while as long as the western allies do not make too many mistakes.

To survive well, the alliance must remember that the subjects of the international system are the nation-states, which recognize no superior authority to decide on important matters such as peace and war. In concrete terms, this implies that the members of the Atlantic alliance must respect and understand each other. In other words, they must respect the national interests of one another. For instance, the French must accept the United States' concern to improve relations between the two German states and its interests in Central Europe, and the Americans must also accept that their current approach to the Soviet Union is not agreeable to the Europeans.

The Europeans, on their part, must make greater efforts to strengthen their own security. For sure, some of the American criticisms are unjustified. Thus, the

European share in total Nato expenditure rose from 22.7 per cent in 1969 to 41.6 per cent in 1979. However, there is little doubt that, to maintain Atlantic cohesion, the Europeans must do more. Indeed, the primary reliance of Western Europe's defence on American nuclear weapons will become increasingly difficult to maintain.

It would be foolish to go as far as forgoing deterrence, but it seems no longer possible that nuclear weapons can carry the entire burden. Although the French and the British deterrents are significant contributions to the alliance, it is not reasonable to assume that they could play a central role in strengthening the defence of northern Europe in the foreseeable future.

The French, and probably the British, have a vested national interest in modernizing their nuclear systems, and this happens to be positive for the alliance as well. But this is not enough, and Western Europeans seem obliged to think more and more in terms of classical defence.

This has four very practical consequences. First, each European country must contribute more to the common defence of its own territory. Secondly, the national initiatives have to be coordinated within Nato. Finally, significant actions must be taken to promote European armament industries. Fourthly, the European countries, individually and collectively, must increase progressively the percentage of their gnp allocated to defence.

Defence and détente are complementary policies, not substitutes. Détente is not dead. Arms control negotiations between the two superpowers must continue on a basis of mutual advantage and subject to common rules. However, deals such as gas should be coordinated among the Europeans before they go to Moscow.

One of the big international issues in the past 10 years has been the question of "divisibility of détente". It is wrong to want to establish a link between arms control issues and East-West competition in the Third World. It is also wrong to expect that the western allies could agree on the nature of and the way to deal with every regional conflict.

Of course, everything is related to everything else, and as we have seen, a full-scale conflict could result from the degeneration of a regional crisis. Nevertheless, the surest way to ruin the cohesion of the Nato partners would be to demand too much unity.

The other side of the same coin is that the Atlantic partners should try - even more than they did in the recent past - not to hinder those who are involved in a local crisis, if their national interest is at stake (as in the Falklands issue, or to some extent, Grenada), if they are resisting indirect Soviet pressures (Chad), or even more generally, if they are wishing to stabilize a situation whose degradation could be detrimental to the western allies at large (Lebanon, the Gulf). In some circumstances, however (Central America), western disagreement cannot be totally papered over. In those instances it is essential that the diverging views be expressed in such a way as not to undermine the cohesive forces within the alliance.

In the economic sphere, I have pointed out that the preservation of an open trade system is vital. Although it is quite remarkable that the Gatt system has lasted rather well, this cannot be taken for granted in the next decade or two. I also claim that it is vital to save the European Community. If a global agreement cannot be found before the Fontainebleau June European Council, we could very well see the beginning of a dismantling process which would, over the years, destroy the very fabric of the western alliance. The survival of that alliance and of the European Community are closely associated.

There is a bright future for the Atlantic alliance if the members are willing and able to pay the political and economic costs of adjustment to the continuing evolution of the international system. The Atlantic partners should be self-confident; they should be convinced of the superiority of their economic and social structures, and trust that in the long run, the Soviet empire cannot win. They should however remain continuously on their guard, not to make the kind of political mistakes that, if too frequent, would amount to committing suicide.

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The author is director of the French Institute for International Relations. All the articles in this series will be published in book form in cooperation with the Georgetown Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Washington.

Ronald Butt

# It's political at any level

Almost every utterance by a Labour "shadow" helps us to understand why Mrs Thatcher (whatever signs of harmless protest may be readable from today's election results) would be in no serious danger from a general election now. Mr Roy Hattersley's observations on Mr Scargill's strike have been particularly illuminating.

If he were a Nottinghamshire miner, he says, he would be on strike against pit closures. Like Mr Neil Kinnoch, he thinks Mr Scargill ought to have had a ballot, but even without one he regards this as an industrial, not a political strike, and as being fully political.

That is also how Mr Scargill presents it, even though he sees its ultimate utility as assisting the destruction of Mrs Thatcher's government. But many of the striking miners themselves (and I do not mean simply the fist-clenched militants) are more honest in admitting that it is a political strike in the sense that its object is to force the Government to change a policy which affects their jobs. A number of them acknowledged in a BBC *Panorama* programme last Monday that in this sense the strike is political. So when is a strike political and when is it legitimately industrial?

Mr Hattersley shares the view of the rank and file striking miner, though he prefers not to echo their candid admission of its political aspect. He thinks it legitimate to strike against the closures, though he is a bit squeamish about Mr Scargill's methods and his attitude to the law. His justification for the strike would doubtless be that Labour in power would discuss such things in a manner unacceptable to the present government and Coal Board and would reach some compromise with the miners. But what this means in practice, and it gets to the heart of Labour's general dilemma, is that state-owned industries (and also services) are, on this assumption, the only industries which cannot be managed by strictly economic criteria.

Mr Scargill puts forward what he describes as economic justifications for keeping open all the existing pits (he says he will not discuss any closures) but he also leaves no doubt that even when every such argument has been overturned, he still regards job protection as a self-sufficient reason for striking.

Only in nationalized industries, of course, is there any practical possibility of striking to maintain jobs which have lost their economic justification and are driving an enterprise towards bankruptcy. For it is only nationalized industries that can have recourse to an external fund-provider (the government using public money) which can be forced to provide finance on non-financial terms.

If the mines were privately (or even cooperatively) owned, who would pay to keep uneconomic pits operative?

John P. Harris

# Essence of a name out of flavour

Clermont l'Hérault  
Poor little Vanilla. On March 13 the Tribunal de grande instance of Pontoise confiscated her name.

Some time earlier, the *officier d'état civil* had refused to allow the name *Vanille* to appear on the register, quoting the law of Eleventh Germinal, Year II (in that disturbing period between Louis XVI and Napoleon) which is still in force and permits the French to have only such forenames as belonged to saints appearing on the calendar of persons known in history.

Vanilla's parents came right back with a 1982 circular in which the Minister of Justice recommended that parents' wishes should be taken into consideration and evaluated with commonsense, in order to liberalize the law. And they appealed to the Tribunal, alleging that the name *Vanille* was devoid of pejorative connotations; on the contrary, it suggested an agreeably sweet taste.

But the Tribunal was unmoved. Such a name, it said, would be prejudicial to a young person, the provoking ribald mockery.

Glancing through the calendar our kind *facteur* gave us last Christmas, I see that had I been born a Frenchman my parents could, with every blessing from the *officier d'état civil*, have dubbed me *Roméo*, *Nestor*, *Hyacinthe*, *Gontran* or *Narcisse*. I could perhaps get away with being *Hyacinthe* Harris now, but in fact I'd rather like to try the name having a "distinction" lacking in mere John; but the law of Eleventh Germinal Year II would have been a poor protection behind the Colet Court tuck-shop when I was in short trousers.

Vanilla, sounds harmless enough, at any rate over in the girls' part of the playground, and no doubt her parents have plans for *Fraise*, *Pistache*, *Pralinée* and other tempting flavour-names if their projected appeal to yet higher authority succeeds. It puts one in a patriotic glow to reflect that if they were Britons they would never have been slaves, and could have settled straight away for Raspberry Ripple.

French manufacturers, on the other hand, are free to consult their fancy and their marketing experts when it comes to naming their products. This was brought home to me on a recent tour of the local supermarket. Not far from the litre bottles of those excellent brands of lemonade *Pachitt* and *Sic* (and here, perhaps, it is as well that the law of Eleventh Germinal discourages thirsty and grateful parents) I

State ownership by its nature imparts political significance into almost every industrial action, which is why a fully socialist state, striking (tantamount to a kind of treason) is impermissible. In the kind of society at which Mr Scargill aims, the strike he is now leading would be out of the question. To this he would perhaps reply (would Mr Hattersley agree with him?) that such a strike would be unnecessary since in a socialist state all concerned would sit down in discussion and reach an agreement or compromise.

But that means in practice either accepting uneconomic production for the sake of jobs or forcing workers to toe the line by the power of the state - or (which is what happens in practice) a bit of both. It also requires political sanctions to make agreement work: workers bring us back to the Labour Party's essential dilemma.

Mr Kinnoch has lately said that Labour should approach the next election committed to a "forthright incomes policy for the purpose of a planned stimulation of demand as well as a protection against low pay. Labour is, therefore, firmly back with the growth pay-prices-planing which was the hallmark of the Wilson and Callaghan governments and which finally under the despicable Social Contract, failed because the socialist's prescription for economic management is operable only under totalitarian conditions which permit no organized dissent.

In a series of speeches Mr Hattersley recently deployed Labour's economic policy. He thinks public borrowing should be increased (and repeats his jolly suspicion that the "Bamous Gram-tham grocer's shop was bought on credit" - as though he does not understand the difference between credit on commercial terms, being money saved by a lender, and government credit created by printing or inventing money, or, least on uncommercial terms. He also wants a moderate (how moderate?) depreciation (how temporary?) recovery, to import controls, and the old apparatus of planning managed by the government (which in practice means compulsory planning over the private sector) in a manner that can once again be brought to nothing in pay conflicts whenever the unions choose.

Mr Scargill is the precursor of the kind of full socialist state which would work, after its own disagreeable fashion, but for which the electorate will never freely vote. Mr Hattersley and Mr Kinnoch, however, who are now unhappily being dragged behind Mr Scargill's chariot, offer a kind of compromise socialism which was tried - and failed - in the 1960s and '70s. If they are to have any hope they must start to think again.

# Challenging a rubber stamp of disapproval

Bogota  
As anyone who has ever sought a visa to the United States knows well, problems can arise if - among other things - you suffer from tuberculosis or mental illness, are a convicted narcotics trafficker or drug addict, have a criminal record or have been deported from the United States in the previous five years, or have been a member of a communist organization.

It is the last part which bothers novelist Gabriel Garcia Marquez. As a Colombian, he obviously cannot plead the Fifth Amendment. But he refuses to answer "such silly questions" about his politics, although he has often declared that while certainly a socialist, he is not and never has been a member of the Communist Party.

This, in turn, creates a difficult situation for the US State Department, whose bureaucrats are not supposed to approve a visa unless the question is correctly answered in the negative. Other factors which they have undoubtedly taken into account in the past are his personal friendship with Fidel Castro and his outspoken criticism of the Reagan administration's policy in Latin America.

Garcia Marquez has usually been granted a visa when he has sought one, but only, he complains, after long and humiliating delays. Furthermore, it is always restricted in time, and written beside the visa in his passport are the reasons for his visit (usually a speaking engagement at university). His friend Graham Greene has



Garcia Marquez and Graham Greene: honorary Panamanian envoys



Garcia Marquez and Graham Greene: honorary Panamanian envoys

the same problem. Indeed, when the late Panamanian strongman General Omar Torrijos invited both novelists to be his guests at the Washington ceremony in 1979 at which the United States relinquished control of the Panama Canal Zone, he bitterly made them honorary citizens of his country and issued both with Panamanian diplomatic passports, so that they could make the trip without suffering the usual State Department difficulties.

Garcia Marquez now says that he has had enough, and is not going to take it from the gringos any more. If they will not issue him with an open-ended five-year visa like any other respectable Colombian citizen, he threatens to forbid the publication of English translations of his future works in the United States. In short, two can play at this game.

Soon after Garcia Marquez

received the Nobel prize in 1982, President Reagan visited Bogota. President Belisario Betancur Cuatrecasas, a friend of the writer, asked him pointedly: "When are you going to give him a proper visa?" Reagan reportedly turned to an aide and said: "How is it possible that a Nobel winner can't enter the US?" He promised to look into the matter, but nothing came of it.

Now the novelist has enlisted the support of a most unlikely ally: the United States ambassador to Colombia, Lewis Tambs.

The urban Mr Tambs is a former oil engineer turned academic, specializing in Latin American affairs, who owes his first and surely only ambassadorship to Ronald Reagan, an old friend. During his academic career, Mr Tambs has variously urged United States naval blockade of Cuba and all-out United States intervention in Cen-

tral America, opposed the Panama Canal treaties, and once remarked disparagingly that some Latin American countries could be dismissed as "no more than a flag, a football team, and a seat at the United Nations".

By all accounts Garcia Marquez and Mr Tambs, an admirer of his work, got on well when they met at a social function in Bogota, and later the writer visited the United States embassy to apply formally for an open-ended visa. An embassy spokesman says that while the ambassador is "very sympathetic", the final decision "rests with the US government and not this embassy".

It was the controversial McCarran-Walter law, approved by Congress in 1952 at the height of the McCarthy era despite a veto by President Truman, which made it increasingly difficult for political "undesirables" to enter the United States. Recently it has been attacked by liberal Democrat congressmen, who have called for its repeal. Since the Reagan administration came to power, they charge that it has been used increasingly to prevent distinguished Latin Americans, such as Garcia Marquez, who oppose US policy in their region from visiting the United States.

Garcia Marquez says: "If what they fear so much in a veto by the United States is my ideas, then they should let me in and instead prohibit the circulation of my books - which are read in schools and universities - because it is in them that my ideas are to be found."

Geoffrey Matthews

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## DUBLIN'S VIEW

In the New Ireland Forum the elected leaders of Irish nationalism north and south have another go at procuring what their grandfathers and fathers failed to procure, Irish unification in a condition of independence. The aspiration is congenial to the Irish state. It is unfinished business of 1920-22. It cannot be safely abandoned by any party or person with political ambitions in the republic. Not yet anyway. The only live questions to be asked of it south of the Irish border are by what means it is to be pushed, with what intensity if any, and with what prospect of success.

All parties to the forum reaffirm a commitment to the objective of Irish unity, and restate the nationalist position in an agreed text plighted with the footprints of party compromise. There was a period when some speeches by some coalition ministers contained hints that national unity might be redefined so radically as to alter its common political meaning. Whether those hints were misunderstood or whether the forum was called to order by Mr. Haughey, no development of doctrine or that scale has occurred. This is the same essence in a new bottle.

Some of the ground newly included in the nationalist position is consolidated, especially in the emphasis on proceeding by negotiated agreement with the representatives of Ulster unionism. Some new ground is broken, as in the validation of the Ulster Protestant tradition or "identity" and the offer to accommodate every aspect of it except the most important, which is a determination to belong to the British state and not the Irish state.

The report briefly exhibits three models for effecting Irish unity: a new-cast unitary state, which is the model the forum says it wishes to see established; a federal or confederal coalescence of the two parts now separated; and joint authority by which "the London and Dublin governments would have equal responsibility for all aspects of the government of Northern Ireland". That is our old friend "condominium". Its theoretical attraction, as answering to the divided allegiance of the province, is overwhelmed by inherent practical difficulties and anyway cancelled by the certainty that unionists, if not everyone else as well, would regard it as a temporary expedient en route to unification proper.

The judgment that Irish unity is only to be had on the basis of consent by the people of Northern Ireland, of whom the majority is unionist, is both a moral and a practical judgment: practical in that the republic does not possess the power to coerce the Ulster Protestants and no one else is going to do it for them. Nor are the people of the republic willing to pay the price of "accepting" the discomfort of digesting a million press-ganged extras.

The consent of the majority in Northern Ireland to the incorporation in an Irish republic of the territory they inhabit is plainly not available at present. It never has been, and recent events have done nothing to alter the position. The murderous campaign of republican paramilitarists merely hardens the unionist heart. They see it as a particularly virulent form of what the constitutional nationalists keep pushing at them in a more civil way. When the republic's economic miracle was in full swing in the 1970s and the north-south gaps in wealth, production, industrialization and commercial sophistication were visibly closing, the material case for abolishing the border brightened. But the republic's economy has blown a fuse. Its main features now include a huge burden of foreign debt, persisting high rates of inflation and unemployment, and an alarming tax regime.

At the same time Ulster Protestant prejudices about society to the south of them have been reinforced by the spectacle of last year's abortion referendum in the republic which was read as confirmation that confessional conviction, once activated, dominates the law-making processes there, whatever apologists or law books may say. And the glimpses afforded of Dublin's political ethos during the last days of Mr. Haughey (as those days were mistakenly thought to be at the time) made even Belfast's lost political innocence blink.

Since the consent of at least a substantial proportion of northern Protestants, with the acquiescence of most of the rest, is required but not forthcoming, it has to be won if the nationalist cause is to prosper. But the members of the forum are a fairly realistic lot, as the analytical chapters of their report show. They are also better acquainted with the unionist outlook than their predecessors have generally shown themselves to be. They do not pin much hope on winning straight conversions.

The Augustan picture they paint of an Ireland united in peace and prosperity, the guarantees they enumerate for the civil and religious liberties of the new citizens, the respect they evince for the cultural tradition, moral tone, and British affiliation of Ulster Protestantism, are directed first at political opinion in Great Britain, and second at influential third parties in Washington and the capitals of Europe. They hope to show that there lies on the table an outline of a settlement of the recurrent and now acute Ulster problem, which fully takes care of unionist interests, and that unionists would be unreasonable to refuse it.

It is Dublin's view that since a British government created the provincial enclave of Northern Ireland it is for a British government to uncreate it. The recommended first step is the withdrawal of the formal guaran-

tee, presently enshrined in the Northern Ireland Constitution Act of 1973, that the province will remain part of the United Kingdom until such time as a majority there signifies a wish to have its status changed.

Since Dublin acknowledges the necessity of consent before transfer, its hostility to the guarantee of no transfer without consent implies the conclusion that consent, which will not be volunteered, must be extracted. The British government is accordingly invited to persuade Ulster unionists that their time is up and they had better make accommodation inside a united Ireland.

It is highly unlikely - history contradicts the assumption - that Ulster unionists would meekly take the hint or accept the instructions and shuffle off to the negotiating chamber. Quite apart from that, it is an extraordinary proposition that is being suggested to the British government. The government is in effect being asked to tell close on a million of its citizens (more unless it is assumed that every Ulster Roman Catholic prefers a future outside the United Kingdom) that they and rest of the kingdom would be better off if the province of which they constitute a substantial majority were ceded to the neighbouring state; and that they are to prepare themselves to agree to exchange an allegiance they are fierce to retain for one they have a loathing to assume.

By what argument can an Irish government hope to prevail on the government and people of the United Kingdom to cease to do the natural thing, which is to support their fellow-citizens in their loyalty? British opinion is not likely to be impressed by an appeal to self-evidence in justification of the outstanding Irish nationalist claim to the six counties, or by an appeal to historical inevitability or the original sin of partition; nor ought it to be impressed by the geographical fallacy which postulates one island: one state.

However, arguments of a more practical nature are contained or implicit in the forum report. They amount in sum to this:

that Great Britain's overriding interest in relation to Ireland, north and south, consists in the preservation of a stable, democratic, friendly, strategically reliable island;

that Britain's Irish policy, in which there has been no fundamental shift through much re-decoration since 1968, has brought about a deterioration of civil cohesion, of the social fabric and of public peace in Northern Ireland so severe and out-reaching in its consequences as to threaten that overriding interest;

that the risk attaching to perseverance in a dead end is by now greater than the risk of breaking the mould and beginning the journey towards the political unification of the island.

The case deserves examination before dismissal, and we shall return to it.

## PRIVATE LINE

In announcing his terms for the privatization of British Telecom yesterday, Mr. Norman Tebbit was conspicuously attempting to juggle with two objectives. The Government faces a daunting task in attempting to raise 51 per cent of this giant safety in the laps of private investors. It faces an equally difficult problem in designing the framework for the regulation of a privately owned monopoly. Even supposing it possessed the ability to carry out either job competently, and it lacks successful experience in either, the two would appear uncomfortably.

The largest stock market flotation ever could so easily turn into the Government's largest financial embarrassment. Some criticism is inevitable. After every sale of a slice of the public sector, depending on whether the shares subsequently move up or down, the Government finds itself assailed by a different group of critics (or sometimes the same, self-contradictory, opponents). It is complained either that a priceless national asset has been sold off too cheaply, and the taxpayer defrauded, or too dearly, rendering the sale a "shop" and defrauding those who bought shares.

When the sale is on the gargantuan scale of half of British Telecom, however, these difficulties in pitching the price are magnified to a new order of difficulty. So the Government is making particular efforts to sell shares to telephone subscribers - through a £50 million advertising campaign - and British

Telecom's own employees. The special terms for the latter were announced yesterday; they are uniquely generous, for a nationalised industry. If the voucher scheme for ordinary subscribers (allowing them a reduction in their quarterly phone bills), are equally advantageous, they should certainly help the Government to achieve its objective of wide share ownership of BT.

But at a price: a price, first, in terms of hard cash, reducing the contribution made by the sale of BT to a reduction in the public sector's deficit, since the cost of these concessionary schemes will be taken out of the proceeds of sale. Nor do such special incentives sit too easily with the Government's free-market principles, which should militate against the use of special subsidies to distort the sale of shares.

But that is a small quibble, if such devices facilitated a successful launch. There remains, however, the City's reaction to Mr. Tebbit's terms, since the big investor will still be at least as important as the small. The capital structure outlined by Mr. Tebbit is, it seems, broadly acceptable to the City; but the professionals still have their worries. One at least of these, however, brings them into direct conflict with Mr. Tebbit's second objective.

Plainly, the freer that BT is left to exercise unfettered monopoly, the keener the City will be to snap it up at a good price. Equally the freer it is to milk customers, the more open it is to

criticism from the likes of Lord Weinstock, who have persistently criticized the "cosmetic" change involved in a mere transfer of ownership of BT. The Government is seeking to reduce BT's monopoly to a kind of uneasy duopoly by launching Mercury, and to trim BT's competitive claws by encouraging the private sale of telecommunications equipment. There are many imperfections and loose ends in this approach, but the point presently at issue is quite separate: the kind of direct limitation to put on BT's general ability to use its market power to raise tariffs.

Mr. Tebbit announced yesterday that a "weighted average" of charges for local calls, trunk calls, business and residential rentals should be kept three per centage points below the general rise in prices. This is tougher than the City would like, but clearly justifiable. It should not be impossible for BT, after years of taxpayers' investment in an industry of huge technological possibility, to achieve productivity improvements of 5 per cent or so a year. This would allow it to meet the Government's rules, and still finance some of its further investment internally. It is worth remembering that this year's rise in electricity charges, widely agreed to be unnecessarily high, was some 3 points below the rate of inflation too. Perhaps the 3 points rule could be extended to all nationalized industries - including those the Government likes to use for backdoor taxation?

## Grudging support for the nurse

From Mr B. H. Bateman.

Sir, The Rayner scrutiny team reports that nurses are being subsidised to the extent of £5 per week for their accommodation. There seems to be the implication that this is "a bad thing". Those of us who have seen some of this accommodation would think that the nurses should be paid at least £50 a week to live in some of the properties. I dare say the members of the scrutiny team would think so too if they had to live there.

Once again this report demonstrates the grudging and negative approach which officialdom has to the nursing profession. These young nurses undertake for love one of the worst possible jobs, a job that exhausts them physically, stretches them intellectually and drains them emotionally and yet we still find that there are in our community members of committees, civil servants, administrators and politicians who are able to bury their own natural kindness and treat these nurses as though they were financial cyphers.

One wonders why the administrators do not feel impelled to join together in a conspiracy to help the nurses in every way they can. Why do they bend their minds to inventing ways to improve the lot of the nurse, to construct rules which help and not hinder the profession and by fair means or foul to circumvent the oppressive attitudes of our financial masters?

Perhaps it is the feeling that their bosses are also their adversaries that, more than anything else, destroys the morale of the nursing profession. Is it too much to ask that the community, as represented by these administrators, gives somehow back the love to them so freely given?

Even discounting such human feelings it must be clear to any efficiency expert that much more would be achieved by giving the nurses the feeling that their bosses, from the Government down, are truly on their side than by pursuing the role of an adversary.

Yours faithfully,  
B. H. BATEMAN,  
34 St Martin's Approach,  
Ruislip, Middlesex.  
April 26.

## 'Free pardon' confusion

From Mr Ludovic Kennedy.

Sir, You recently reported (Law Report, March 31) that the Appeal Court judges (L.J.s Watkins and May and Mrs Justice Butler-Sloss) as ruling that a free pardon only removes "the pain of punishment" and does not amount to an acquittal of the offence. This news will tickle the ghost of Timothy Evans, who was given a posthumous free pardon after being hanged in error.

In any case the ruling is contrary to what the present Home Secretary said in a letter to Sir Ian Gilmour of February 27 this year about two men released (but not pardoned) after having served 10 years for their (wrongful) conviction in the Luton post office murder case.

"A free pardon", he said, "is normally recommended only when there are positive and convincing grounds for believing that the person concerned did not commit the offence of which he was convicted."

It is also contrary to what the Lord Chancellor (Lord Dilhorne) said in the House of Lords on March 19, 1968, when debating the Swales case, free pardon, he said, "means that the conviction and all its consequences are wiped out" and recipients were "in the position of having been acquitted at trial".

It is not time that Parliament sorted out this confusion and passed legislation to abandon this absurd and anachronistic phrase and, for those whose guilt will no longer stand up, substitute some such expression as "exoneration and apology"? Or does that smack too much of *lèse-majesté*?

Yours, etc.  
LUDOVIC KENNEDY,  
3 Upper Dean Terrace,  
Edinburgh.  
April 20.

## Clue to 'Enigma'

From Mr Nicholas Trefusis.

Sir, No doubt there are many claimants to the dedication of Variation no 13 of the "Enigma" (report, April 23). However, I have in my possession an autograph letter from Elgar to my grandmother, Lady Mary Trefusis (née Lygon), indicating that the variation in question was dedicated to her.

Elgar used asterisks instead of her initials because, when he published the "Enigma Variations", she was returning from Australia and he was therefore unable to obtain her permission for the dedication in time.

The quotation in the piece from Mendelssohn's "Calm Sea and Prosperous Voyage" refers to her journey.

Yours faithfully,  
NICHOLAS TREFUSIS,  
Trefusis, Falmouth, Cornwall.

## Third grandchild

From Mr Patrick W. Montague-Smith.

Sir, In the fascinating poem on the Queen's early years (Spectrum, April 23), your poet states that she was King George V's first grandchild. In fact she was the third, after the Earl of Harewood and the Hon. Gerald Lascelles.

When, as a child, she first met Prince Philip of Greece, this was long before he adopted the surname of Mountbatten. He decided on this in 1947 when he adopted British nationality, and had to abandon his royal Greek and Danish titles.

Yours faithfully,  
PATRICK W. MONTAGUE-SMITH,  
197 Park Road,  
Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Due rewards in the public service

From the General Secretary of the Civil &amp; Public Services Association.

Sir, Your editorial of April 26, addressed to the issue of Civil Service pay ("Off the guidelines again"), was pretty low-grade stuff, by any standards. The essence of your prescription for Civil Service remuneration is that the market forces of supply and demand should be rigorously applied.

This notion of "market forces" is a curious creature, in my experience. It is freely applied by politicians and pundits the length and breadth of the land - to all but themselves. In practice its existence is pure mythology. How else could one explain average pay increases comfortably in excess of inflation when there are on average 10 workless chasing every vacancy?

In the public sector the "market forces" argument is selectively and cynically applied to those groups whom the Government considers to be industrially weak - teachers, health service staff, civil servants etc. The argument is never heard in the context of the police and firemen (who have index-linked pay) or even mineworkers; but the recruit and retain argument could equally well apply.

In the private sector, no matter what you may think, the market forces argument has no practical effect whatsoever at the current time in depressing pay levels. The report of the Office of Manpower Economics (which you quoted) demonstrates this quite clearly.

The real facts about Civil Service pay (and particularly for the thousands of low-paid civil servants) are that whilst their productivity has been forced up by manpower cuts averaging 12 per cent over recent years, their relative pay has declined dramatically (by at least 10 per cent in our estimation).

The truth is that the intellectual rationalization of crude pay restraint is cynically switched to suit the circumstances of the day. At the beginning of the term of the current government the "stratum heard most often" was "improve productivity". Now that this argument would justify substantial increases for civil servants it is never heard. Instead the spectre of four million unemployed is wheeled in to threaten employees in the crudest possible manner.

You do not need to remind my members of the miseries of unemployment - they are the people who in Jobcentres and DHSS offices have to deal with the frustrations

## IBA appeal on 'Scum'

From Lord Thomson of Monfith.

Sir, The IBA at its meeting today (May 2) had hoped to have the full text of the judgment in *R v Independent Broadcasting Authority, Ex parte Whitehouse*, but as this is not yet available and as Mrs Whitehouse has already published her version of the decision, I hope you will allow me to comment on some significant implications for British broadcasting arising from this case. It was described in your Law Report (April 14) entitled "IBA error over referral of boral film".

Mrs Whitehouse's principal purpose in bringing the case was to obtain a judicial verdict that the IBA should not have allowed the particular film of *Scum* to be shown. This view was not accepted by the court.

The court was not persuaded that the members of the IBA had misdirected themselves in regard to

and anger of the dispossessed on behalf of the Government and the rest of us.

Yours faithfully,  
ALISTAIR GRAHAM,  
General Secretary,  
The Civil & Public Services  
Association,  
215 Balham High Road, SW17.

From Mr David J. Willis.

Sir, Your editorial today (April 26) on Civil Service pay betrays the true motivation of monetarism: to drive down the standard of living of the working people and to use mass unemployment to force down wages.

As a civil servant facing the unrelenting hostility of this Government I feel justified in condemning their shortsighted and blinkered attitudes.

The destruction of morale of staff only leads to less efficiency and less respect for the Government.

The Government have abrogated agreements (something you always condemn in trade unions) refused to accept binding arbitration (ditto), destroyed union rights (e.g., Cheltenham) and cut services to the public merely to achieve paper saving in the accounts.

The latest pay round merely illustrates their duplicity. They commissioned the OME (Office of Manpower Economics) report; they decided from whom the evidence should be collected and they are now totally ignoring the evidence and report before them.

No doubt had the findings pleased them they would berate others for failing to abide by them.

The Government cannot be trusted to keep its word and cannot expect the civil servants to regard such duplicity with anything other than contempt.

Yours sincerely,  
DAVID J. WILLIS,  
23 Cargate, Penwithick,  
St Austell, Cornwall.

From Dr G. A. Wheatley.

Sir, You report today (April 17) Sir Keith Joseph telling teachers that their low pay offer was due to the law of supply and demand.

Can Sir Keith explain why miners have been offered on the one hand a substantially larger pay increase and on the other massive redundancy payments?

Is it not just a matter of industrial clout?

Yours faithfully,  
G. A. WHEATLEY,  
Highfield, Beadon Lane,  
Salcombe, Devon.

the provisions of section 4(1) (a) and section 11(1) of the Act.

Mrs Whitehouse's wider charge that the IBA over a long period had allowed programmes that were an offence against taste and decency and in breach of the Act was dismissed by Mr Justice Taylor as "extraneous and unwarranted".

The court considered that the director general had erred in failing to refer the film to the IBA for a decision as to whether it be shown and that the IBA itself had erred in not giving specific instructions to the director general upon the nature of and circumstances in which programmes should be referred.

The IBA intends to appeal and as the matter will be *sub judice* I shall not comment further here. Nevertheless it is right to stress that the members of the IBA have total confidence in their director general.

Yours faithfully,  
GEORGE THOMSON, Chairman,  
Independent Broadcasting Authority,  
70 Bromford Road, SW3.

With present attitudes to diplomatic privilege abuse of local laws may occur and, indeed, as in London, very serious violations; however there are other ways of dealing with this and we should not lay open our diplomats and those of friendly countries to violations by less "civilised" states (assuming we wish "diplomacy" to continue).

The existence of diplomatic relations implies, at the least, mutual tolerance and recognition of a need for a reciprocal presence in the respective countries. It is up to governments to scrutinise most carefully those who wish to be accredited diplomats for foreign nations and to regulate their numbers.

In the present circumstances Government policy appears to have permitted an unclear situation to develop, notwithstanding certain apparent dangers. If we are prepared at all to have diplomatic relations with a given country, we owe it to our own people and servants overseas to ensure that, at the least, the nature of that country's presence in the UK is acceptable and not to be excessively tolerant of what develops as a presence (diplomatic or otherwise), regardless of its nature.

The time for control is before events such as those in St James's Square can increase in probability and not afterwards by a unilateral interpretation of what the Vienna Convention "in reality" may permit or by reducing the clarity of the Convention.

Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD BIZLEY,  
Flat 11, 60 Hardy Road, SE3.

## Cricket proposals wide of mark?

From Mr John McPherson.

Sir, I am depressed by the naivety of Sir Edward Ford's letter (April 28). Such talk of conserving our cricket heritage ignores the unpalatable truth that first-class cricket is no longer a game but a "professional" (curse the word) undertaking. As such it is slowly divorcing itself from the pleasant sport which most of us still think of as cricket.

At the same time Sir Edward must be aware that even amateur cricket is a living and developing game and whilst its traditional quality and whos are revered in the hearts of all players and spectators alike, nobody wants to see himself officially conserved - reduced to the level of a moving tableau in a museum or long room.

It can be fun to tinker with the laws of the first-class game, but I see no point in your throwing open your columns to such discussion, not least because most such emendations are flawed.

Sir Edward accuses fast bowlers of adding to the difficulties of umpiring, yet he proposes that a line be drawn across the pitch as a guide to evaluating short-pitched deliveries. Surely such a line would require umpires not only to keep one eye on the bowler's feet and the other on the batsman but also a third eye on some arbitrary spot on the pitch. This would indeed be difficult.

No amount of innovation will see the demise of the first bowler in his domination of county cricket. Spin left that game when groundsmen were permitted to protect the pitch from the elements during matches. Only retrograde steps will now succeed in "conserving our heritage" where first-class cricket is concerned and such steps are unlikely ever to be taken.

Sir Edward, myself and the millions of others have no choice but to let the "professionals" go their own rather po-faced way, meanwhile enjoying our cricket in our own dilettante fashion.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN MCPHERSON,  
17 Albemarle Avenue,  
High West Jesmond,  
Newcastle upon Tyne,  
Tyne and Wear.  
April 28.

From Mr Humphrey Brooke.

Sir, Sir Edward Ford pinpoints factors in cricket's decline and suggests remedies. If wickets ceased to be covered spin bowling would be revived and conditions restored to those in which the game flourished.

Yours faithfully,  
HUMPHREY BROOKE,  
Lime Kiln, Claydon,  
Ipswich, Suffolk.  
April 23.

## Lead-free petrol

From Mr K. D. Collins, MEP for Strathclyde East (Labour).

Sir, I read with interest the letter from Mr Des Wilson and others from the Campaign for Lead-free Air (April 30) and I should like to bring the position up to date.

In the last two weeks the Environment Committee of the European Parliament has had meetings with Commissioner Karl-Heinz Narjes and Madame Bouchard, the French Environment Minister, who is currently President of the Environment Council. In both cases my committee was adamant that lead-free petrol should be introduced as soon as possible right across Europe as from 1986, with mandatory marketing of suitable engines and lead-free petrol as from 1989.

The Commission is due to have another meeting on May 2 in order to arrive at what I hope will be a firm proposal.

In the meantime the Environment Committee has unanimously tabled a resolution in my name for the May session of Parliament advocating an early conclusion to the debates which have continued for the last two years and I myself am due to have yet another session with the Commission next week to discuss this point further.

The structure of the car industry and of the oil industry is such that an international agreement on lead-free petrol is infinitely preferable to a purely national one and this is why we have been pressing so hard for it. If, however, France and perhaps Italy fail to agree on such action then the other countries might be compelled to go ahead on their own. I hope that it will not come to this and that the pressure which has been exerted by consumer and environmental organisations both directly and via the European Parliament will be seen to bear fruit.

Yours faithfully,  
KEN COLLINS (Chairman,  
Committee on the Environment,  
Public Health and Consumer  
Protection, European Parliament),  
11 Stuart Park,  
East Kilbride, Glasgow.  
April 30.

## Mass observation

From Mr T. P. Goldingham.

Sir, Are leading articles about utilism ("The company they keep," April 28) written by ignorants?

Yours faithfully,  
T. P. GOLDINGHAM,  
76 Walker Road,  
Maidenhead, Berkshire.

## Unkind cut

From Mr P. Binley.

Sir, The photograph of the President of the RIBA blowing out the candles on an "architect-designed" cake (The Times, May 1) shows that "architect-designed" cakes look as bad as modern "architect-designed" buildings.

Yours faithfully,  
P. BINLEY,  
281 Russell Court,  
Woburn Place, WCI.



It's a diabolically tender trap.

A car is, after all, likely to be one of a man's largest investments outside his home.

And, in some ways, an even more emotionally-charged one.

In the circumstances, the lure of an exotic name is perfectly understandable.

Paradoxically, there is a danger in playing safe.

It's true that manufacturers constantly update their cars on a superficial level, causing us all something of a flutter each August.

But it's also true that only by starting from scratch can any fundamentally new ideas in car design be incorporated.

Certainly, a number of cars on the roads today are hiding the thinking of a decade ago behind well-respected names.

And a decade is a long time in the car world.

You can now buy an executive saloon car that goes a great deal faster than the low-slung soft-top you were so passionate about in your more impressionable days.

though a gap in the fog of  
ring, rather aimlessly  
only unaware of which  
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re, it was as unexpect-  
orious, and news of it  
the team of foreign  
the adjacent British  
solehill, who had been  
ound in the mist for

Acceleration of 0 to 60 in 8.3 seconds coupled with a top speed of 143 mph is now a possibility.

(Indeed, anyone who does any autobahn driving might well consider it a necessity.)

Aerodynamics, hardly taken into account by car designers five years ago, are considered vital to a car's success today.

Because a low aerodynamic drag factor contributes significantly to both a high top speed and the ability to travel upwards of 500 miles on a tankful of petrol.

Almost lag-free intercooled turbo-charging is another contributor towards the high performance/low consumption goal.

By simply re-directing exhaust gases, turbo-charging boosts an engine's performance way beyond its naturally-aspirated capabilities.

While yesterday's cars rely on muscle to deliver power, today's cars rely on ingenuity.

Witness, the engine in the 143 mph car not quite shown here is a modest 2.2 litres.

# When you've got £17,000 to spend are impressed by the name the



THE GOVERNMENT FUEL FIGURES FOR THE CAR REFERRED TO ARE 10.5 LITRES PER 100 MILES

0371001260



A new definition of what constitutes 'luxury' equipment seems called for, too.

The car we seek to interest you in has a Climate Control System so sophisticated that, once set, it need never be adjusted during the lifetime of the car.

In winter it'll turn the heating on for you; in summer it'll turn the air conditioning on for you.

And every day of every year it'll thermostatically maintain the selected temperature inside the car irrespective of the temperature outside.

This outstandingly up-to-the-minute machine naturally has a electronic Auto-Check system.

Because the other ways of finding out things like whether your washer fluid level is low or your brake pads are worn don't bear thinking about.

Cruise Control is there to give your right leg a break on those long runs up the motorway.

To help you stop fast when you're going fast, a virtually skid-proof second-generation Anti-locking Braking System is

fitted as standard. Instead of you having to pump the brakes to stop the wheels locking up, ABS does it for you. Up to fifteen times a second.

In recognition of the fact that most cars don't have ABS, there's a rigid steel passenger cell and front and rear crumple zones.

A six-year warranty against corrosion from the inside and a three-year warranty against paint defects should convince you of the effectiveness of the 26-stage painting process.

(Even the coachwork of a Rolls Royce doesn't inspire such confidence.)

And, to help keep you off the osteopath's couch, all four windows and the passenger door mirror are electrically-operated from the driver's seat.

If you're so far impressed with what we have to offer, read The Times tomorrow.

Tomorrow, we'll not only reveal who we are, but we'll offer a video tape of our car in action ■

pen, are you in danger of being more  
ne time than by the car?









## FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

# Interest-rate hurdles keep the markets guessing

The market is becoming increasingly apprehensive that some kind of upward movement in interest rates, at some stage, is on the way. The longs, for example, sold again yesterday and lost 1/4 point, while the shorts dropped some 1/2 point, and a further underlying fall in foreign exchange reserves hardly bolstered sentiment.

Yesterday's tender offer for the new tap, Treasury 9 1/2 per cent Convertible 1989, may also with hindsight come to represent some kind of watershed for market sentiment. In banking March, the authorities sold just £121m of gilts, and buoyant bank lending suggests that the need to overfund is as pressing as ever. Yet the stock by and large flopped. All tenders were allotted in full at the minimum price of 95.5 per cent, which is Bank of England code for saying that not many investors bothered to bid for the Convertible. The market view was that well under half the stock was sold, with some traders putting the figure as low as £200m.

Far from having formed a definitive view of rate trends, the Bank seems to be setting the market a number of hurdles, at the end of which, presumably it will decide whether or not rates should rise. Next Tuesday's preliminary but now fairly detailed money supply figures constitute the first of these.

Dr Henry Kaufman of Salomon Brothers is due to deliver a major speech on interest rates in, appropriately enough, Dallas, on Friday. Reading between the lines of his latest *Comments on Credit* bulletin, his speech could well depress the UK authorities considerably.

True, according to Kaufman, the US economy slowed in March. But it will bounce back in April. Retail sales should recover, along perhaps with housing starts. This economic momentum should carry through to May and June. On money supply, Kaufman remarks: "The fixed income markets may well be faced with a four to five-week period of heady advances in M1, due in part to still imperfect seasonal factors and a rebound from sluggish growth in April."

It follows that the pressure on both the Federal Reserve and US rates should continue unabated. According to Kaufman, there is no evidence that the current structure of rates is restraining economic activity. "We probably have a long way to go before interest rates bite into economic growth," he added.

Amplifying these views for *The Times* last night, Dr Kaufman forecast that US primes could rise to between 12 1/2-13 per cent by the end of the year.

## Sharpening the stock exchange picture

Today sees the beatification in London of the new stock exchange index, the FT-SE 100, happily called "Footsie" and the launch of two financial instruments parasitic thereon: an options contract and a futures contract. A predictably considerable effort has been devoted to their promotion.

Yet there is a basic confusion between the purpose of a new index and the use to which the new contracts might be put. That the FT-SE 100 will provide a picture of the stock market more accurate than the unrepresentatively narrow FT-30 and less unwieldy than the All Share is undeniable. Given that the technology to calculate and transmit a frequently updated stock market index has been available for some years its introduction is overdue.

But it does not follow that there is either the demand or the need for contracts based on the new index. The history of the

FT-SE 100 is instructive. It arose because stock futures and options contracts based on stock indices had been successful in the United States. London, as usual, had lagged behind. Options in London were a failure and the London International Financial Futures Exchange seemed to be losing momentum.

It is hard to escape the conclusion that the launch of these contracts and of the FT-SE 100 today owes more to the need of the Stock Exchange to refurbish its image and of LIFFE to revive its fortunes than to providing new instruments of financial and economic value. Imitating the fecund inventiveness of the American commodity markets does not necessarily serve the needs of London nationally or internationally.

## City expects tough talking by Telecom

When it came to the crunch, the Government has clearly decided that the jeremiahs in the City have been overdoing it a bit as far as the impending flotation of British Telecom is concerned. Yesterday's decision to impose a ceiling of three per cent below inflation on BT's annual price increase across its domestic services is a tough one, that will do little to cheer the fainthearts who have been expressing doubts whether the Government can attract enough interest in the mammoth flotation this autumn. The price regime is certainly tougher than the one which Sir George Jefferson and his men at BT have been holding out for.

"Challenging" is how Sir George described it on slightly over half its business (international calls are exempt from the new regime) Telecom is going to have to get its earnings growth largely from its own efforts. Nobody doubts that there is plenty of fat still to trim: indeed a common initial City reaction yesterday was that Telecom is going to have to be very tough - tougher perhaps than it would like - in cutting into its swollen 230,000 workforce. The spectre of industrial relations problems will now be added to the City's existing scepticism about whether Telecom really is the go-go growth stock that Sir George would like it to be.

Sir George would have been doing less than his job if he had not tried for the best deal in the bargaining process, but Telecom should not be written off yet as the dull utility he warned us about if he lost the balance-sheet and price-regime battles. The settlement of the balance sheet means that the debt-equity ratio, come flotation, should be somewhere around the 50/50 mark, which should not cause too many worries in the City. Kleinwort Benson and Hoare Govett, respectively the Government's lead merchant bank and lead broking adviser, were quick yesterday to scotch talk that the London market will be prepared to put up only £2,000m for the Telecom issue. Latest soundings, they say, show that they could raise the whole shooting match here if they wanted to, though in practice the decision whether to go for cash in New York and other markets such as Japan and Italy has still to be taken.

What must still worry the City is not just the tough price regime but the fact that it could be extended after the initial five-year period, something which the Government made clear yesterday could well happen. The intention is still to underwrite the issue, for obvious government financing reasons.

## Bankers meet on debts

From Our Correspondent, Washington

A high-level group of 35 central bank and economic officials from industrialized and developing nations will meet in New York next week for a series of closed-door sessions on longer term solutions to the international debt problem.

The three-day meeting, sponsored by the New York Federal Reserve Bank, begins on Sunday and will explore a variety of medium and long-term solutions to the world debt problems, especially of Latin American and other developing nations.

Monetary sources said that the high-level group of participants from central banks and the US federal reserve system will include Mr. Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank, Ernest Stern, a senior official of the World Bank, Mr. Christopher "Kit" McNamara, deputy Governor of the Bank of England.

The three options would allow the treble-damage antitrust case to continue even if Sir Freddie as a British citizen, is permanently enjoined by a Lords decision.

The options propose the appointment of a US citizen to act as a guardian for Sir Freddie, thus allowing the case to go forward in American courts; a court petition asking the US State Department to take over the case, and a counter-injunction by the American court ordering Sir Freddie to proceed with his case, alleging that eight air-

lines conspired to drive him out of business. At the same time, Mr. Greene must decide whether to hear a new class action, alleging that transatlantic passengers suffered injury following the Laker demise when the other airlines raised their fares.

Should Mr. Greene "accept" the case as a legitimate complaint, his decision would raise new legal problems for Midland Bank and the two British airlines. Since the case was filed in America on behalf of US citizens, they would not be able to seek relief from British courts.

Meanwhile, a third action involving a non-public criminal investigation by the US Justice Department continues, as a special Grand Jury pursues its inquiry into criminal charges alleging a conspiracy against Laker by the eight airlines, including the two British carriers.

## Reserves fall to lowest in five years

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Britain's official reserves of gold and foreign currencies fell sharply last month to \$15,941m (£11,417m), their lowest level since the end of 1978.

But of the \$808m drop, \$480m reflected the repayment of government foreign currency bonds, issued seven years ago following Britain's accord with the International Monetary Fund after the sterling crisis of 1976. The bonds, denominated in dollars, Deutschmarks, Swiss francs and yen, were offered to official overseas holders of sterling, such as central banks, who might otherwise have wanted to offload their holdings in the open market.

Though reserves are now only about half their peak value seen in early 1981, Britain's foreign debt has also halved from \$22 billion in May 1979 to \$11.35 billion today.

After taking account of new foreign borrowings and revaluations, the underlying fall in the reserves during April was \$255m, slightly less than the \$288m decline in March. This suggests the intention to support the pound continued on a relatively modest scale. Though sterling lost ground to a strengthening dollar it gained on European currencies, maintaining its overall international value.

The pound ended London trading yesterday little changed at \$1.3985, while its trade-weighted index gained 0.2 to 80.0.

But nervousness about the future course of American interest rates and the dollar, coupled with worries about the miners' strike and next Tuesday's money supply figure, again nudged rates up in the London money markets.

lines conspired to drive him out of business. At the same time, Mr. Greene must decide whether to hear a new class action, alleging that transatlantic passengers suffered injury following the Laker demise when the other airlines raised their fares.

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## WH Smith bids for Martin the Newsagent

# Heron buys 32 Woolworth stores in £50m deal

By Jonathan Clare and Jeremy Warner

The high street faces another shake-up after the sale of 34 F W Woolworth stores, mainly to Mr Gerald Ronson's private Heron Corporation, and a contested bid by WH Smith for Martin the Newsagent.

The Woolworth deal means the loss of the F W Woolworth name from cities such as Nottingham, Leicester and Cardiff.

WH Smith, if it wins control of Martin through its £34m bid, intends to convert about 50 of its top high street sites into prime WH Smith stores.

Heron has paid £50m cash for 32 of the 34 stores put on the market by Woolworth Holdings a few weeks ago as part of a shake-up of the Woolworth property portfolio.

The 32 stores total about 1 million square feet of prime high street retail space but the deal does not include the prestigious but loss-making Oxford Street store in London which has been sold to an unnamed institution for redevelopment. The other outstanding store in Middlesbo-

rough has gone to a developer in the North East.

Woolworth will raise a total of £70m from the 34 shops which will be closed between now and next January. Yesterday Mr John Beckett, Woolworth's chairman, said another six stores will also be closed and sold over the next few months. Two deals are virtually complete. About 1,400 jobs are affected.

Mr Anthony Royle, Heron's property director, said that "about eight or nine" of the stores would be redeveloped and the rest marketed as they stand. Some will be sold on the institutional investors. He expected that Heron would realize about 20 per cent profit on its investment.

Mr Royle confirmed that Heron is still interested in entering the retail sector but has no intention of using these stores as a launch pad. "It's purely a property deal," he said.

The shops are a mixture of freeholds and leaseholds. Heron was asked to keep the deal secret until yesterday afternoon



Gerald Ronson: purely a property deal

and it has not yet struck any deals of its own. But Mr Royle said he expected no difficulty in finding buyers.

Woolworth still has 900 stores in Britain after the closures.

Martin, a chain of about 40 confectionery, tobacco and newspaper shops, said it had received a takeover approach on Monday. It was only

yesterday that WH Smith emerged as the suitor.

Mr John Martin, the chairman, condemned the offer saying that it "completely fails to reflect the value of Martin's business". He said he would not be "at all surprised if other bidders decide to enter the fray".

The terms of the offer are three WH Smith A shares for every two Martin shares and cash or 10 per cent unsecured loan notes in the quantity required to fix the value of the bid at 260 per Martin share on the day WH Smith prints its formal offer document.

The bid comes at a particularly vulnerable time for Martin, which analysts expect to report extremely poor half-year figures shortly. In addition, Martin's stated net asset value per share is well below the bid price.

But a spokesman for Schroder-Wagg, the merchant bank advising Martin, said that the defence document might contain some surprises. "The bid values Martin on an exit p/e of around 12. That looks like no more than a sighting shot

## GEC comments anger Distillers

By William Kay, City Editor

Shares in Distillers, the spirits group whose Johnnie Walker, Haig and Dewars brands command nearly 40 per cent of the world whisky market, fell 2p to 313p yesterday as the City tried to puzzle out the significance of the admission by Lord Weinstock, chairman of GEC, that his company had bought about 3 per cent of Distillers' equity and was willing to offer management help.

A relapse of only 2p, after Tuesday's remarkable 23p

jump, indicated the widespread belief that much is yet to unfold. The Distillers management, returning to their London office in St James's Square after the hiatus of the Libyan embassy siege, were staunchly refusing to comment on the affair. The chairman, Mr John Connell, was in the US, Mr Robert Temple, the finance director, was in meetings all day.

But in private, senior executives were reported to be "extremely angry". One City source close to the company said that GEC's comments were regarded as "astonishing, arrogant and patronising".

He added: "Without wishing to apologise for Distillers' less than sparkling performance, you have to have some sympathy with their predicament. The company's problem is that it is dominant in world whisky and therefore cannot avoid what is happening to the world 'whisky market'."

Cash mountain, page 23

## Enterprise looks to US

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

Enterprise Oil, the new North Sea oil company, which the Government plans to float on the stock market this summer, confirmed yesterday that it plans to embark on a rapid expansion programme in the United States once it has been privatized.

The company, which was set up to take over the North Sea oil assets of British Gas, made an operating profit in its first eight months of trading of £80.6m, according to its first set of accounts. Net profits after a £52.4m tax charge ended at £30.8m.

The Government's plan is to float 100 per cent of the shares in the company on the stock market by the end of June, although a final decision will

depend on market conditions.

The company, which has stakes in four producing North Sea fields and another one under development, is now producing oil at the rate of 30,000 barrels a day. Mr Graham Hearn, the chief executive, said yesterday that this is expected to build up to a peak of 40,000 barrels a day in two years' time - rather lower than the figure the brokers were originally assuming.

Mr William Bell, the chairman, said that Enterprise would be seeking to broaden its exploration base as "a high priority". It also plans to invest overseas, and has already formed a United States exploration subsidiary.

Tempos, page 22

## Record high for index

The equity market kept up its record-breaking run yesterday despite growing fears that share prices may have started to run ahead of events.

Selective support and continuing takeover situations enabled the FT Index to recover from a hesitant start to close 3.6 higher at a record of 919.4. The FT-SE 100 also advanced 3.3 to 1140.1. But analysts are becoming increasingly concerned that the index is starting to look too heavy and they are eagerly looking for more good news to sustain the run.

Market report, page 22

## STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index 1,140 up 3.3 (day's high, 1,140.1; low, 1,133.6)  
FT Index 919.4 up 3.6  
FT All Share 536.12 up 2.38  
Bargains: 24,740  
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 116.16 up 1.04  
New York Dow Jones Industrial Average (latest) 1181.22 down 1.68  
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 11,105.46 up 86.37  
Hong Kong: Hang Seng Index 1056.54 down 2.06  
Amsterdam: 174.2 up 1.6  
Sydney: AO Index 761.1 up 5.5  
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1047.1 up 15.0  
Brussels: General Index 156.11 up 0.38  
Paris: CAC Index 178.2 unchanged  
Zurich: SCA General 316.60 up 2.40

## CURRENCIES

STERLING  
Sterling 1.3985 up 5pts  
Index 80.0 up 0.2  
DM 3.82 up 0.0050  
FF 11.7150 up 0.02  
Yen 216.25 up 1.0  
Dollar  
Index 130.1 up 0.1  
DM 2.7295 up 0.0035  
NEW YORK LATEST  
Sterling \$1.3995  
Dollar DM 2.7250

INTERNATIONAL  
ECU £0.588850  
SDR £0.748911

## INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:  
Bank base rates 8 1/2  
Finance houses base rate 9  
Discount market loans week fixed 8 1/2-8 3/4  
3 month interbank 9 1/2-9  
Euro-currency rates:  
3 month dollar 11-11 1/2  
3 month DM 5 1/2-5 3/4  
3 month FF 12 1/2-12  
US rates:  
Bank prime rate 12.00  
Fed funds 10 1/4  
Treasury long bond 8 3/4-9 3/4  
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for 4 interest period April, to May, 1984, inclusive: 8.934 per cent.

## GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):  
am \$377.35 pm \$377.35  
close \$377.50 - \$378 (£270 - £270.50)  
New York (latest): \$379  
Kruggerand (per coin): \$389-390.50 (£278.25 - £279)  
Sovereigns (new): \$68.50-69.50 (£63.25-£64)  
Excludes VAT

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Dillon Read in French connexion

M Pierre Moussa, the leading French banker acquired last week in Paris - of exchange control changes, is entering the London investment banking scene. Pallas Group, the Luxembourg holding company he chairs, is taking a 30 per cent stake in the overseas arm of Dillon Read & Co, one of Wall Street's oldest firms, and M Moussa will become chairman of the London-based operation. Pallas is injecting new capital, believed to be about \$20m (£14.3m), for its stake in Dillon Read's London subsidiary. Capitalized at \$100m, Pallas is backed by an impressive array of international shareholders including the Post Office and British Telecom pension funds and investors in industry group.

● MATTHEW HALL announced profits for the year to December 31 of £12.9m (£11.6m), on a value added figure ahead by £10m at £187m. The full year dividend goes up by 14 per cent, with the planned final dividend of 5.725p, to 7p.

● NET PROFITS at Jessel Toyne fell from £2.1m to £1.6m for the year ended April 5, 1984, and after the recommended final dividend of 3.5p, the full year payout goes up from 5.5p to 5.63p. Smith St Aubyn is paying a full year dividend of 4.5p (3.5p) after the planned final of 3p, after profits jumped from £1.4m to £2.5m.

Tempos, page 22

## Laker judge may pre-empt House of Lords

### Anglo-US court battle feared

From Bailey Morris, Washington

A battle between US and British courts over jurisdiction in the complicated Laker Airways case could erupt next month if an American judge moves to circumvent an expected decision by the House of Lords, diplomatic sources said yesterday.

Mr Harold Greene, the judge assigned to hear both of the antitrust case on behalf of the bankrupt Laker Airways and a new class action suit on behalf of former Laker passengers, is seeking ways to reassert his authority even before the Lords' deliberations on June 4.

Mr Greene has asked attorneys to comment on three proposed legal options to speed the stalled antitrust case, even if the Lords moves to enjoin Sir Freddie Laker permanently from continuing his suit against eight airlines, including British Airways and British Caledonian.

The three options would allow the treble-damage antitrust case to continue even if Sir Freddie as a British citizen, is permanently enjoined by a Lords decision.

The options propose the appointment of a US citizen to act as a guardian for Sir Freddie, thus allowing the case to go forward in American courts; a court petition asking the US State Department to take over the case, and a counter-injunction by the American court ordering Sir Freddie to proceed with his case, alleging that eight air-

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## Michael Clark

The speculative activity in

Engineer John Brown came within a whisker of its year's high with a rise of 2p to 26p. Dealers reported strong two way trade and heavy call option business. Renewed bids specu-

**Management Agency & Music**, the show-biz agent with clients including Engelbert Humperdink and Tom Jones, rose 3p to 188p after **Queens Moat Houses**, the provincial hotel group, announced it had increased its stake with the purchase of an extra 225,000

**William Coats:** "The world offers opportunities for growth in all areas of the business."

Many traders were sceptical about Tuesday's rally.

Another option will be to

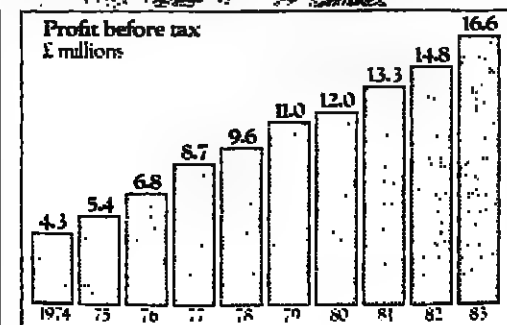
results, while Jessel shed 4p to R6n.

loan, stock issue or a straight rights issue, would give the group even more readily available cash. If the doctrine of the longest purse is to prevail in the US then Matthew Hall will need all the cash it can muster to snap up the stragglers, when the US turn

Period rates continued to firm in the money markets yesterday reflecting mounting nervousness about the next set of British money supply figures, due on Tuesday, and prompting debate on the risk of a base rate rise.

This left the market in a tight situation at the close.

Turnover in 1983 rose 17% to £13.5m and Trading Profit was 50% up at £950,000. This reflects both the generation of profit from large turnkey contracts and a contribution from most of the units within the division.



Bank Note and Security Paper, Water Treatment and Engineering  
 Copies of the 1981 Report and Accounts are available from: The Secretary, Laverstock Mill, Wetherbury, Here, RG26 7NR.

† Mortgage Base Rate

Pen Property	97.0	102.2
Pen UK Equity	104.2	109.8
Pen American	103.9	109.5
Pen Pacific	108.0	113.8

***"The first months of 1984 indicate an excellent year to come."***

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New strategy may take over at GEC's 'old fashioned merchant bank'

# Lord Weinstock and the frustration of life with a £1.5bn cash mountain

The news that GEC is to invest part of its growing cash mountain in other companies follows an unexpected fall from grace in the group's profits. Graham Serjeant asks whether this marks another new strategy from Lord Weinstock.

If a £1.5 billion investment trust, or life assurance company built up a £40m stake in the Distillers Company, it would probably not attract too much attention. After all, the admitted larger Prudential Corporation was once famous for having 4 per cent of everything. That such a holding by the General Electric Company arouses so much interest and speculation owes something to the outdated reputation of GEC as an acquisition-minded company, something which the financial chairman of its managing director, Lord Weinstock, and perhaps most, to one of the longest-running enigmas in the City: when will GEC do something big and exciting with its £1.5 billion cash mountain?

Great expectations have built up several times over the past few years, most recently over GEC's proposed controlling investment in Germany's ailing AEG group, which foundered on a combination of repressed German industrial nationalism, hard-bargaining from GEC's modest, mainly headquarters, and employees' fear of Lord Weinstock's misplaced fame as an industrial butcher after the three-way merger of Britain's leading electrical companies half a generation ago.

Although GEC has yet to reveal, and perhaps even formulate, the full implications of its investment in Distillers, grand expectations could be disappointed again.

The important point to remember is that GEC's investments in cash and stock market securities now account for almost half its total net assets. If it is to maintain its reputation and its own £5.1 billion stock market valuation, those assets have to perform just as much as the Marconi electronics empire, and the telecommunications manufacturing and power generation businesses which make the bulk of the £700m plus profit. City analysts expect GEC to have produced in the year ended in March.

The company itself is as much to blame as over-enthusiasm City folk for any misconceptions. Early this year, Lord Weinstock said again: "I don't want the GEC to be an investment group. I want it to be an industrial group, doing better what it knows how to do." Investment has never appeared as a division or activity in its own right, despite employing nearly half the funds. It will not so appear in the new breakdown of the group's classes of business promised for this year's annual report. All this creates an air of impermanence about the cash mountain, identifying it, in outsiders' eyes at least, as a cash pool still waiting, after many disappointments, to be plunged into grand product developments or acquisitions which will change the shape of GEC, which is basically the same since the great initiatives of the sixties.

Perhaps, this time, Lord Weinstock really does have a new strategy. Perhaps not. Meanwhile that cash has to perform. The latest results from GEC, for the half year to last September, showed an unexpected fall from grace. Profits, which remarkably kept on rising each year through the depression, fell back just as the rest of British industry was starting to recover from the depths.

The setback, albeit a modest £6m cut in pretax profits to £285m, did not reflect any upset in the inexorable advance of GEC's industrial interests, given the usual ups and downs among the different divisions. It was mainly due to a £16m fall in interest and investment income to £56m. That simply reflected a period of lower but stable interest rates, a state of affairs that continues. It was the cash mountain that let GEC down.

Although GEC has a successful gilt-edged portfolio, partly managed by stockbrokers, and is no stranger to equities in past years, much of the £1.2 billion available in this country has been placed with the high street banks. The idea now is to replace some of this with investments in what the unit trust men call special situations. There have been venture capital investments but DCL, so far represents the biggest stake.



Lord Weinstock: a legendary success story

Sir Kenneth Bond, GEC's deputy managing director and financial architect, is presently enjoying a novel sent to him about the takeover of a large spirits combine, but the idea that GEC is about to move into the drinks business seems premature. So is the prospect of Lord Weinstock and Sir Kenneth running a sort of Private Enterprise Board from Stamhope Gate with bright young men rushing round to re-organise inefficient companies.

The funds are still being kept in a form that could be realized if the great opportunity ever does materialize.

To some extent, the very elements that have made Lord Weinstock's management style a legendary success story have inhibited the bold moves that

might have put the cash into the trading activities at which the group is so efficient.

The system depends on close management monitoring of cash and trading ratios at head office, combined with a high degree of autonomy for managers and independent operation of the subsidiaries. The system has given managers the incentive to deliver cash in large amounts as profit grows, but also to plan their activities as though they were separate businesses, eschewing perhaps, some of the more grandiose long-term new product projects that require resources on a scale that only the worldwide group could muster.

This character of the group, combined with Lord Weinstock's own instincts, has made GEC appear much more averse

to big risks than, for instance, the oil companies or ICI, which, significantly is now moving much nearer GEC's style.

That puts the onus on the small central team to come up with dramatic developments, most obviously by acquisition. GEC's head office operates something like an old-fashioned merchant bank, where the senior 'partners' operate close to each other and constantly discuss opportunities as they come up. Not surprisingly, there has been no shortage of ideas from a GEC-run domestic nuclear monopoly to massive repayments of capital to shareholders. A demerger of the group's constituent parts has been discussed from time to time but that seems more a gesture to a possible management succession problem - Lord Weinstock will soon be 60 and Sir Kenneth is 64 - than a serious business proposition.

The so-called Unilever scheme, involving a dual or tripartite GEC with separately quoted arms in Britain, the continent and possibly North America, is still the main contender for a new stage in the life of GEC. It might have happened with the AEG takeover. Apart from that, there have been several attempts to link up with or takeover large-scale American businesses, on a quite different scale to recent purchases of office and medical equipment firms.

But Lord Weinstock's value for money caution has dictated a fully agreed deal that would not repeat all-British takeover battles, and these have not worked out. As one City wag puts it: "Maybe Lord Hanson should buy 3 per cent of GEC with a view to advising on their acquisition policy."

While Lord Weinstock and Sir Kenneth continue their quest for the big deal, an investment in distillers offers them the sort of contained, low-risk proposition they can cope with any day of the week.

Distillers has great potential and pays its shareholders a good dividend. If it puts its socks up, GEC should win. If it does not, there are plenty of predators who might want a stake as a springboard for takeover GEC wins again.

## APPOINTMENTS

## Hambros Bank names director

Hambros Bank: Mr Harold Collen has become a director. CPM: Mr Cecil Parkinson has joined the board as a non-executive director.

French Keir Holdings: Mr J. C. S. Mott, chairman and chief executive for 10 years, is to step down as chief executive in November, but will continue as chairman. Mr C. A. Frettsome, managing director of French Keir Construction, will succeed him.

Airship Industries: Mr Brian Trafford has been named managing director and chief executive, succeeding Mr Andrew Millar who continues as a non-executive director.

The Iron Trades Insurance Group: Mr Gordon Sambrook and Sir Douglas Bruce-Gardner have been appointed chairman and vice-chairman on the retirement of the present chairman, Dr Denis Rebbeck, and vice-chairman, Mr Peter Wrightson, at the annual general meeting on May 24.

The Birmingham Mint: Mr David Pottle has joined the board.

Jackson Exploration: Mr George Williams and Lloyd Ryman have been appointed non-executive directors.

Bassett Foods: Mr H. B. Stokes has become group chairman and chief executive.

Laing & Crickbank: Mr P. J. Benka, Mr J. C. E. Bones and Mr A. G. B. Pullinger have become shareholding directors.

Ozolid Group Holdings: Mr G. B. Pellizzari has been appointed managing director and Mr A. R. Miles, who will reach retirement age this year, has resigned as executive chairman and managing director of Ozolid (UK) and will be succeeded as executive chairman by Mr G. B. Pellizzari. Mr Pellizzari has also been appointed a director of Océ-Skycopy and Océ Copiers (UK) from June 1.

Hinton Hill Marine: Mr Philip R. Blackman has become a director.

Water Authorities Association: Mr Len Hill, chairman of South West Water, has been re-elected as chairman of the WWA for a second term, until next April.

Boots the Chemist: Mr Jack Craig is appointed director of customer service.

Group 4 Total Security: Mr Terry King-Smith has been appointed joint deputy managing director with responsibility for all British operational and marketing activities.

CLYDESDALE (TRANSVAAL) COLLIERIES: The boards of Gold Fields South Africa, Liberty Life Association of Africa, Liberty Holdings, First Union General Investment Corporation have announced that agreement has been reached Gold Fields will acquire from Liberty Holdings their controlling interest in Clydesdale.

## Gartmore Investment Management Limited

Gartmore Investment Management Limited is pleased to announce that it arranged the management 'buy out' of the assets of B.W. Mud Ltd. from Bristol Oil & Mineral plc. The total requirement for £3.3m of funds was provided by the following clients of Gartmore:

Scottish National Trust plc  
London & Strathclyde Trust plc  
Bricomin Investments Ltd.  
Caledonia Investments PLC  
Glasgow Stockholders Trust plc

English & Scottish Investors plc  
London & Gartmore Investment Trust plc  
The Iron Trades Insurance Group  
Mollins Pension Trust Ltd.  
Cayzer Trust Company Ltd.

Gartmore Investment Management Limited

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds			
Unit Name	Unit Price	Unit Yield	Unit Dividend
1. Aberdeen City & District Council	1.00	1.00	1.00
2. Aberdeen City & District Council	1.00	1.00	1.00
3. Aberdeen City & District Council	1.00	1.00	1.00
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\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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## Target Life to be sold in deal worth £52m

By Jeremy Warner

Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank, could add up with about 45 per cent of Target Life under the terms of a proposed buy-out of the unit trusts and life assurance company from its existing two shareholders, announced yesterday.

Charterhouse J. Rothschild is selling its 60 per cent stake in Target because of its planned £1 billion merger with Hambro Life, a direct competitor of

Target in unit-linked life assurance business. Target's other shareholder, Mr Saul Steinberg's US-based Reliance group of companies, has also decided to divest.

The change of ownership will place a total value on Target of about £52m. Charterhouse J. Rothschild will receive £26.3m for its stake, a gain of about £9.4m over the value placed on its holding at the end

of last year, and Reliance will receive about £21.7m. In addition, there will be £4m of new money to cover expenses and for use in expansion.

Morgan Grenfell, will initially take a 20 per cent stake in the company but will have options to take this to a maximum of 45 per cent by buying shares from other shareholders when Target is floated on the stock market in three to four years' time.

Target has more than £300m under management and, in future, investment advisory services for these funds will be undertaken by Morgan Grenfell.

The merchant bank had about £7.2 billion under management already but, unlike its competitors, has failed to participate in the fast-growing unit trusts and life assurance business preferring to stick to the wholesale end of the market.

The other shareholders in Target will be funds managed by Morgan Grenfell with 10 per cent, the Target management with 8 per cent and options over a further 5 per cent. Transcontinental Services Group, which is an investment company 31.3 per cent owned by Charterhouse J. Rothschild, with 10 per cent, and the Ailsa Investment Trust with 2 per cent. The remaining 50 per cent of the shares is to be placed with a wide range of institutional investors.

## Hawley and BCA form investment company

By Jonathan Clare

Plans are at an advanced stage for the Hawley Group and British Car Auction to put certain joint investments into a separately quoted investment company.

Shareholders at Hawley's annual meeting yesterday in Maidenhead, Berks, were told that creation of the new company in a month's time would "focus investor attention on our mainstream activities".

Removal of the peripheral investments would concentrate attention on the fundamental trading businesses in cleaning, security and maintenance. These businesses boosted Hawley's earnings per share by 36 per cent last year, and are expected by analysts to increase by more than 60 per cent this year. Last year's profits were £14.2m, up from £5.3m.

Mr Michael Ashcroft, Hawley's chairman, said after the meeting that Hawley and BCA would be the main shareholders in the new company with roughly equal stakes.

It is still uncertain which of the jointly held investments will go into the new company, but Group Lotus and Miss World are possible candidates.

A US quote is likely soon for Hawley on the over-the-counter market plans were delayed by a change in US regulations.

### COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

● **ANCHOR CHEMICALS:** The chairman, Mr B. B. Pugh, has said in his annual report that there was a welcome improvement during the last few months of 1983 which has continued into the current year. "Our US business is at record levels. Our European, South African and Australian companies continue to perform satisfactorily".

● **CLAYTON, SON & CO. (HOLDINGS):** The chairman, Mr S. C. Thomson, says in his annual review: "We face the coming year with orders outstanding approximately 10 per cent above that of last year and while the budget may have eased our overall costs this is no substitute for reinvestment in the country's capital structure. However, we are less exposed to loss making activities and anticipate being back to profitability before the end of the year".

● **MANUFACTURERS HANOVER - UK TRUST:** Manufacturers Hanover Finance has been formed to take over the existing leasing, industrial and consumer finance business of M.H. Credit Corporation and Manufacturers Hanover Industrial Finance. Combined annual turnover in Britain of Manufacturers Hanover Finance is £100m.

● **ROHAN GROUP:** The chairman, Mr K. C. Roban, says in his annual report that the board expects the group to be back on course in 1984 and the levels of profitability which the company considered satisfactory in the past should be achieved. From a substantial financial base, the company looks to the future with confidence.

● **JESSUP:** half year to February 29, 1984. Interim dividend 1p on increased capital. Figures in £000. Turnover 23,242 (19,447). Gross profit 1,638 (1,339). Other net optional expenses 734 (749). Optional profit 904 (590). Interest payable 501 (370). Pretax profit 403 (220). Tax nil (29). Earnings per share 4.83p (2.29p).

● **YORK MOUNT GROUP:** Final 3p making 5p (same) for 1983. Figures in £000. Turnover 1,812 (4,048). Pretax profit 105 (419). Tax 21 (41). Extraordinary debt 22 (4 debt). Earnings per share, 12.6p (37.8p). Shares 61 down 7.

● **PETROCON GROUP:** final 2.5p, making 3.75p (same) for 1983. Figures in £000. Turnover 704 (1,007). Pretax profit 704 (1,007). Tax 259 (107). Extraordinary debt 36 (nil). Eps 7.34p (15.25p) pre-extraord items.

### Commercial property

## Co-op prepares to fight for London superstore sites

Co-operative Retail Services (CRS), the biggest retailer in the co-operative movement with annual sales of nearly £1 billion, is about to emerge as a strong contender for superstore and hypermarket sites in London.

This is bound to increase competition for such sites, especially along the new road routes emerging in and around the capital, with the M25 box areas probably the plum targets.

CRS's new general manager for the London region, Mr Laurie Denton, expects to announce a new plan to revitalize the Co-op in the London CRS area shortly. He describes it as "major new investment", indicating that the gaps in the Co-op armory to be filled are hypermarkets and what CRS calls Homevalue stores which cover a wide range of household goods, excluding do-it-yourself and gardening.

One possibility being explored for the Homevalue stores is to develop them where do-it-yourself chains may be setting up outlets.

The London CRS region is that covered by the old London Co-operative Society which, beset by losses, merged with CRS. A 1982 loss of £3.6m in the region was last year cut to a trading deficit of £1.2m. Now the region is within sight of breaking even.

The new chief executive of CRS, Mr Bill Farrow was one of the earliest in the co-operative movement to switch to superstores, so the drive in the London Region is bound to be a determined one. Heading a new team which will seek sites in the region is Mr Peter Sturton, who is joining CRS after property experience with Kentucky Fried Chicken and MFI, the furniture group.

Mr Denton said: "We are anxious to re-establish the co-operative retailing presence. From now on, if a site appears in our London area that in trading terms we assess as being acceptable, the money for development will be available."

In the past, retailing Co-ops have found it less easy than their competitors to raise development money. Mr Denton says he will be prepared to bid on open tender, although CRS will initially look to develop any suitable sites it already has. It owns two superstore sites presently in the planning process at Chingford

Derek Harris

### Law Report May 3 1984

## Refund offer is not a service under false statements law

*Dixons Ltd v Roberts*  
Before Lord Justice Kerr and Mr Justice Forbes  
(Judgment delivered May 1)

The refunding of part of the purchase price of goods purchased from a shop was not a service under the Trade Descriptions Act 1968, it was held in the meaning of section 14 of the Trade Descriptions Act 1968.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in a reserved judgment, allowing an appeal by the defendants, Dixons Ltd, against their conviction by the Wrexham Justices sitting at Wrexham on March 14, 1983, of two informations laid against them by the prosecutor, Mr D. C. E. Roberts of Shropshire County Council trading standards department, alleging that they made a false statement as to the provision of a service, namely, the refunding of part of the purchase price of goods purchased from the defendants' shop and available locally at the time of purchase, contrary to section 14(1) of the Trade Descriptions Act 1968.

The justices found that by means of a sales leaflet, the defendants had promised customers that they would "refund the difference if you buy Dixons' Deal products cheaper locally at time of purchase and call within seven days." The offer was intended to apply only to a restricted range of products.

The defendants refused to refund the difference or to match the price of goods supplied by them which were available cheaper locally because the goods were not products to which the offer was intended to apply.

As originally drafted, "Dixons Deal products" had merely read "products." While appreciating that the original draft might be read as applying to all products sold by the defendants, the company secretary had amended the phrase, but as the justices found, he and through him the defendants, had failed to think through the implications of the amendment and had not appreciated that a reasonable customer could interpret the offer as still applying to all products.

Mr Christopher Carr, QC, for the defendants, Mr Alex Carline for the prosecutor.

MR JUSTICE FORBES said that two issues were raised on the appeal, namely, whether the defendants had been reckless in making the statement and whether the statement was related to the provision of services.

By section 14 of the Trade Descriptions Act 1968, it was an offence for a person in the course of trade or business recklessly to make a false statement as to the provision in the course of the trade or business of any services.

While the defendants had acted recklessly, the statement was not concerned with the provision of services and the convictions against the defendants would accordingly be quashed and the appeal allowed.

Lord Justice Kerr agreed.

Solicitors: Barlow, Lyde & Gilbert; Sharpe Pritchard & Co.

## Level of skill applied in negligence cases

*Wimpey Construction UK Ltd v Poole*  
Before Mr Justice Webster  
(Judgment delivered April 18)

Where a professional man held himself out as having especially high skills and was retained on that basis, the standard to be applied in order to determine whether he had been negligent was that of the ordinary skilled man exercising and professing to have the special professional skill, not that of a man exercising or professing to have especially high professional skills.

Mr Justice Webster so held in the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench Division, delivering a reserved judgment in an action in which the plaintiff, Wimpey Construction UK Ltd, had claimed that it had been negligent in the performance of a contract and was therefore entitled to be indemnified by the defendant, Mr Douglas Victor Poole, in respect of that negligence, pursuant to an insurance policy which he had underwritten.

Mr Patrick Phillips, QC and Mr Timothy Lamb for the plaintiff; Mr Desmond Wright, QC and Miss Rosemary Jackson for the defendant.

MR JUSTICE WEBSTER said that in *Whitehouse v Jordan* (1961) 1 WLR 246 the House of Lords had approved the test of negligence to be applied to a professional man which Mr Justice McNair had stated in *Bolan v Friern Hospital Management Committee* (1957) 1 WLR 383, 386, and that he therefore felt constrained to treat it as unqualified. *Greaves & Co v Baynham Meikle and Partners* (1974) 1 WLR 1361, 1369, resting as it did on special circumstances, was not inconsistent with that conclusion.

The test established the degree of knowledge or awareness which the professional man ought to have; if he in fact had a higher degree of knowledge or awareness and acted in a way which, in the light of that actual knowledge, he ought reasonably to have foreseen would cause damage, he would be liable in negligence even though the ordinary skilled man would not have had that knowledge.

In determining whether a structure had been negligently designed, it was necessary to apply the professional standards of the time at which it was designed, not any later standards.

The standard of proof which the plaintiff company had to meet was not higher than the ordinary civil standard of the balance of probabilities either because it was claiming against insurers, or because it was asserting its own fault, or

because it was claiming negligence on the part of professional men in a complex field and relying on their omissions.

The test of negligence should be applied to whoever actually designed the structure, not to the plaintiff's most experienced and competent designers. His Lordship doubted whether the plaintiff should be regarded as a corporate designer.

Where a plaintiff sought to establish his negligence not by proving all relevant facts by direct evidence but by inference from the direct evidence, then even though the inference was drawn from a number of real unexplained possibilities which would be inconsistent with that inference, it was one of negligence, that inference should not be drawn where there was a number of real unexplained possibilities which would be inconsistent with that inference.

In practice that might mean that the burden of proof did not shift on to the defendant after the plaintiff had established a *prima facie* case, but that in order to establish negligence by inference on the balance of probabilities the plaintiff, rather than the defendant, should exclude enough of the possibilities inconsistent with negligence to enable the inference of negligence to be properly drawn.

A primary insuring clause which was expressed to cover "omission, error or negligent act" covered an omission or error without negligence even though an ancillary clause referred to "negligent act or omission" the cases relied upon in *MacGillivray & Parkinson on Insurance Law* (7th edition, 1981) at paragraph 2024 did not support its assertion that the words "negligent act, error or omission" were apt to cover only negligence.

However, not every loss caused by an omission or error was recoverable under the policy; it must be one which in principle could create liability (see *Hasseldine v Hasken* (1933) 1 KB 822, 837) and must not be deliberate.

A clause which restricted liability to loss not insured by any other policy only took effect to prevent recovery under the policy if the same insured was covered in respect of the same property against the same risks by another policy; see *Petrofina Ltd v Magnaload Ltd* (1984) 1 QB 127.

The mere fact that the same loss was covered by a property policy and also by a liability policy, or by a liability policy and also by a policy covering own loss without liability, would not prevent recovery by reason of the double insurance clause.

Solicitors: Mr R. W. Grey, Hammettsmith; Barlow Lyde & Gilbert.

## Not separating children

*A v A*

It was undesirable in custody cases, other things being equal, that children close together in age and fond of each other should be split up, especially where both had been affected by the breakdown of the marriage, as they supported one another and gave themselves mutual comfort, perhaps more than they could derive from either of their parents. Lord Justice Dunn, sitting with Mr Justice Wood, said in the Court of Appeal on April 18.

HIS LORDSHIP added that he agreed entirely with a welfare officer's report which emphasized the importance of not allowing children to feel that they had to take

the decision between their father and mother. The pressures on children when a marriage broke up were quite sufficient without the added burden of deciding their own future.

**Company car value**

*Kennedy v Bryan*  
The value of a company car to an employee should be taken to be in the range £750 to £1,000 a year when assessing damages for loss of earnings where the plaintiff had lost the use of a company car, Mr Justice Beldam said in the Queen's Bench Division on April 17.

### Jessel, Toynbee & Gillett plc

Bill Brokers and Bankers  
Member of the London Discount Market Association

#### Results for Year Ended 5th April 1984

Profit stated after providing for rebate, taxation, all expenses and after transfer to reserve for contingencies.

- Group Profit £1.66m (1983 £2.17m).
- Dividend - Proposed final 3.5p, making total distribution for year 5.63p. (1983 Final 3.5p, Total 5.5p).
- Assets £599m. (1983 £575m).
- Disclosed Shareholders Funds £11.97m. (1983 £11.52).

These are not the full financial statements of the company which carry an unqualified auditor's report and which have not yet been delivered to the Registrar of Companies.

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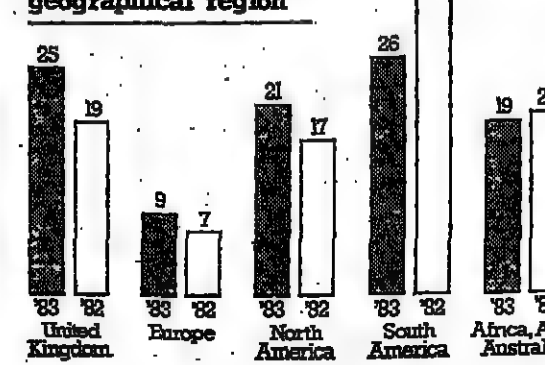
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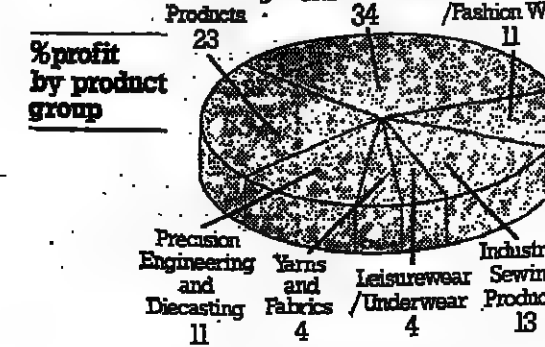
## There is more to Coats Patons than meets the eye.

In 1983 Coats Patons sales amounted to £288.0m (1982 - £256.2m) earning £87.0m pre-tax profit (1982 - £77.3m) from five major geographical regions and in seven broad product categories.

#### %profit for each major geographical region



#### %profit by product group



(The analysis illustrates that 75% of profit is earned in consumer products rather than from trade with customers involved in commodity markets)

Coats Patons employs some 43,000 people. The Group manufactures in thirty countries and its products are distributed in every country of the free world.

Highlights from the Review of the Chairman, Mr. W. D. Coats

**Pre-tax profits up 13%.**  
We started the year 1983 in a more optimistic mood than had been the case during the previous two years. Events have proved our optimism well founded with pre-tax profits up 13% at £87 million.

#### Increase in final dividend by 14%.

On the strength of the results, the board has recommended an increase in the final dividend from 2.8p to 3.2p.

#### Product groups

During the year our main product groups have continued to make very satisfactory progress, with Leisure and craft products, Retail shops and Precision engineering all showing good increases in turnover and profit. Yarns and fabrics and Leisurewear/underwear have both made much more satisfactory margins. Home sewing products and industrial sewing products have been distorted by the downturn in South America, and the fact that Venezuela has been treated as an associate in 1983.

#### Prospects

The results for 1983 show some of the benefits resulting from the efforts that have been made by all those working in the group, where productivity and performance have improved significantly in the last three years. The group has a well balanced portfolio of assets; around 15 per cent are in less developed countries, and we look forward with confidence to continued improvement in our business in 1984 in most parts of the world.

#### Results Highlights

	1983	1982
Turnover	£288.0	£256.2
Trading profit	94.5	85.5
Pre-tax profit	87.0	77.3
Capital expenditure (incl. leasing):		
U.K.	17.3	12.2
Total	48.2	40.8
Net cash flow	(8.8)	4.7
Earnings per share	17.3p	14.6p
C.C. earnings per share	7.0p	5.9p
Dividends per share net:		
Interim (paid on 30.12.83)	1.8p	1.4p
Final (payable on 27.84)	3.2p	2.8p
Number of employees:		
U.K.	15,200	16,500
Total	43,800	46,900

(The figures for the year to 31st December 1983 are audited from the Group's full accounts which will be filed with the Registrar of Companies after the Annual General Meeting.)

Copies of the 1983 Annual Report are available from: The Secretary, Coats Patons PLC, 155 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 8SA

**COATS PATONS PLC**







## GOLF

**By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent**

I must come clean about Henderson. His father, who played for Oxford at Lords, in 1950, is one of my oldest friends. This is the only time I have had a chance to write about "the boy". Derek, the father, would have bowled effectively in yesterday's conditions, cutting the ball about 100 yards from the stumps. I hope that we'll see more than well enough for

**By Peter Ball**

## Three Somerset centuries humiliate Oxford

## Former Blues the masters of Cambridge

A J T Miller c Crowsie b Davis	0
R M Edmister c Gurd b Davis	7
G J Toogood not out	19
J G Frankie not out	24
Extras (b 1, n-b 2)	3
Total (2 wkts)	33

\*K A Haynes, D A Thorne, J D Carr, M R Cullinan, S G P Hewitt, M P Lawrence and J R Turnbull to bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-3, 2-17

<b>BOWLING:</b>	Garlick	20-0-110-1;	Grimes
	5-0-34-0;	Cotnam	39-7-85-3;
	19-1-75-1;	Andrew	8-0-32-0;
<b>CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: First Innings</b>			
<b>C R</b>	Andrew not out		18
<b>A</b>	Lee c Gould b le Roux		11
<b>A K</b>	Golding not out		4
<b>Total (1 wk)</b>			<b>33</b>
<b>FALL OF WICKETS: 1-28.</b>			

**By Richard Streeton**

A green pitch and a grey, overcast morning must have tempted Gooch to give Kent first innings. Only McEwan, with some thrilling strokes, found batting less than difficult. Pont and Hardie buckled down as the ball moved about freely. Alderman, an overnight

Gladwin had already survived a chance to the slips off Jarvis when he flicked a catch to leg slip to give Ellison his first wicket. Pont struggled against the same bowler and even McEwan took a while to get his bearings.

Extras 0-0 4, n-b 7/5. 11  
 Total (3 wickets) 115  
 C S Coworey, R M Elson, A P E Knod, G W Johnson, D L Underwood and K B S Jarvis to bat.  
 FALL OF WICKETS 1-78, 2-86, 3-111.  
 Bonus points: Kent 4, Essex 3.  
 Umpires: B J Meyer and P B Wight.

With their skipper, David Gower, in hospital with an infected arm, their acting captain, Peter Willey, put Nottinghamshire in to bat, but his bowlers wasted their opportunity. The seam attack was wayward and at one stage Willey was forced to introduce the pace bowler, pace bowler

<b>NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings</b>		
B C Broad c Hayman b Brers		43
R T Robinson not out		36
D W Randall c Hayman b Agnew		44
* B Rice c Gulo b Brers		33
J D Birch c Balderson b Cook		16
B Hazen b Pansons		10
R J Hadlee c Wiley b Agnew		14
* B H French c Agnew b Cook		29
K Sarey not out		1
K E Cooper c Agnew b Cook		18
Extras (D-1, L-15, W-1 b-8)		24
<b>Total 19 wickets</b>		<b>291</b>

**ominated as next president**  
**choice for a d**

### Cost of MCC

### Difficult age

**By John Woodcock**

In an age when the game, as it is played, gains in aggression, it matters that it should be administered with style, as it is sure to be by Mr. Mann. A president's opportunities for leaving a mark, however, are curtailed since he holds office for only a year. No sooner has he played himself in than his successor with

Mr Manna may see it as his special mission to bring MCC and the TCCB closer together. As the game's traditional overlords, MCC have certain inalienable rights, which are jealously guarded; the TCCB, for their part, have come to

The two, in a sense, represent different philosophies, which has not always made for an easy co-existence.

While George Mann is president of one and Charles Palmer, a member of his side in South Africa in 1948-49, chairman of the other, there should be no trouble with any

**By Marcus Williams**

Malender had shared the new ball with Hanley, Northamptonshire's experienced fast bowling recruit from South Africa. Hanley finished top of the Currie Cup averages last winter and has a fine record over 14 seasons, including unofficial Test matches and one previous appearance before this season in England for DH Robbings XI against the Pakistanis in 1974. Although he had to wait until after tea for success yesterday, early signs are encouraging for Northamptonshire.

**By Mitchell Platts**

She said, that it was a relief to complete her opening round. She spoke of being nervous but did not look, it as she holed putts of eight and twelve feet to salvage her pars at the second and third. The five iron which she hit to ten feet for a two at

LEADING SCORERS: British and Irish winners: 71: T. Fernando (GB); 72: K. Douglas; 73: L. Casella (GB); 5 Brandywine (US); 74: J. Lee-Smith; 75: V. Marvin; J. Smith, R. East (SA); 76: P. Conley (US); M. Weber, S. Stuchlik, S. Allison; 77: J. Compagno, J. Struettmeyer, M. Marshall (US); S. Moon (US); B. Sauer (NOR).

Langer, the European No 1 in 1981, has a strong record in the Italian Open. He finished third behind Jose Maria Carreras of Spain, in Milan three years ago and fourth in 1982 in Saragossa; while Mark James, of Britain, won last year, in Florence, he won a play-off

The paradox of Ben Crenshaw's fairytale success in the US Masters was that one element of romance was missing. As his winning putt disappeared, Polly, the girl who married him when she was 17, was nowhere to be seen.

that theirs had been an admirable parting, but that there has been no more popular winner. When Crenshaw entered the last lap at Augusta National three weeks ago one sensed that every spectator, no matter where his or her allegiance rested, was urging the admirable Texan to victory.

Very soon more observers found themselves looking at Crenshaw as a logical successor

Crenshaw applied extra pressure on himself. He spoke of not being able to live with a "major". His love for the game, his savouring of its history, combined to make winning that little more difficult. He read golf book after book, collecting

Crenshaw, however, unlike the azaleas and dogwood at Augusta, failed to blossom annually. It was another three years before he won again. The problem was traced to a fiery

Champions, starting at the La Costa Club in California today, with the inner knowledge that, like Nicklaus and the Watsons, he has reserved a place in the history books.

David Gower has been admitted to hospital because of his badly fractured right hand. The Leicester Tigers captain is believed to have

● **Bob Willis**, the England captain, expects to be playing for Warwickshire for the first time this season in their championship match at home to Surrey on Saturday. After a week of net practice, following his recent illness, he successfully played in a trial match with Warwickshire colleagues at Edgbaston on Tuesday.

Warwickshire's manager, David Brown, said: "It's odds-on him

Very soon more observers found themselves looking at Crenshaw as a logical successor

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**TRENT BRIDGE:** Nottinghamshire v Leicestershire  
**THE OVAL:** Surrey v Northamptonshire  
**WORCESTER:** Worcestershire v Glamorgan  
**OTHER MATCHES**  
**FENNERS:** Cambridge University v Sussex  
(11.30 to 8.30)  
**THE PARKS:** Oxford University v Somerset  
(11.30 to 6.30)  
**Second XI Championship**  
**Derby:** Derbyshire v Lancashire, Leicestershire

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Champions, starting at the La Costa Club in California today, with the inner knowledge that, like Nicklaus and the Watsons, he has reserved a place in the history books.

Unproven: M D Heath and A G T Wistead.  
Unproven: M D Birc, and J Brinkshaw.

five months still to go, is getting  
play an increasingly important role.

bridges that may need mending.

Liverpool show...  
Acromioclavicular v Glenohumeral

very subtle pro...











# General Appointments

## SALES/MARKETING MANAGER

### Fashion Clothing

IN-WEAR LTD, a successful fashion clothing company selling to major department stores and independent retailers is seeking applicants for a senior management position controlling the Sales and Marketing Department for the ladies wear division. IN-WEAR, and responsible to the Managing Director.

The responsibilities will include:

- Control and motivate national sales staff
- Implement sales and promotional programmes
- Budgeting long and short term
- Implement market analysis and status reports
- Direct communication with retailers

Candidates should have at least 2 years experience in a similar management level and be in the age range 28-35 years. A working knowledge of French is an advantage but not essential. The remuneration package includes salary of £24,000 per annum and a Volvo company vehicle.

Please send a comprehensive career resume including a cover letter to:

**IN-WEAR** **matinique**  
design Kirsten Reiser

TIM MORISTON

MANAGING DIRECTOR

IN-WEAR LIMITED

88 PETERBOROUGH ROAD

LONDON SW6 3HH

The In-Wear group develops and sells co-ordinated fashion casualwear for men and women. It is one of the largest of its kind in Europe with its head office in Denmark and subsidiaries in Sweden, Norway, Finland, Germany, Holland, Belgium, Italy, Hong Kong, USA and UK.

## Oral History Interviewer

The Department of Sound Records is a national archive for all types of sound recordings which have a bearing on war in the twentieth century. The rapidly growing archive collection amounts to some 7000 hours of recordings.

This opportunity offers special responsibility for projects involving recording interviews with those who have had interesting experiences of twentieth century war. Work includes the selection and recommendation of subjects with relevant research, documentary preparation and contact with informants; conducting interviews (involving travel within the UK) and control of projects to completion; participation in the general work of the Department, especially aiding public use of the collection.

Candidates must have an

appropriate degree, normally with first or second class honours. A knowledge of twentieth century history is essential. Postgraduate historical research, library or archive work, a working knowledge of one or more modern European languages, interviewing or recording experience advantageous.

Salary as Museum Officer Grade F within the range £7035 - £9325 according to qualifications and experience.

For further details and an application form, (to be returned by 21 May 1984) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1UB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref. G(13)382.

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Imperial War Museum

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We are now looking for additional TRAINERS whose main responsibility will be customer and staff training, with involvement in the development of the new courses.

Applicants should have a background in computing and have the ability to teach in a fast-moving, high-tech environment. Programming experience using relational database technology would be a distinct advantage. Training experience is preferred, but applicants who feel they could meet the challenge of training within the computer industry will be considered. A high degree of personal enthusiasm and commitment is essential as a fair amount of travel is involved.

In addition to excellent working conditions, Metier offers a generous benefits package, including free BUPA, life assurance and a contributory pension scheme.

Please apply with CV to: Sue Thompson, Training Manager, Metier Management Systems Ltd, Metier House, 23 Clayton Road, Hayes, Middlesex UB8 1AN. Tel: 01-848 3400.

**METIER**

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENGINEERING & MANUFACTURING PROFESSIONALS

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Our client is a major division of a \$6 billion American consumer goods corporation with interests worldwide and an enviable reputation for innovation, profitability and success.

Corporate development plans have resulted in the decision to restructure their European operations, leading to the creation of a completely new Headquarters group within the UK.

This investment is probably one of the most exciting manufacturing developments in Europe today, which in turn reflects the genuine opportunities available for those men and women forming the team.

Our client is looking for young engineers and managers, with good relevant degrees, who are ambitious, determined and capable of directing co-ordinating and allocating new product introduction and manufacturing requirements to existing facilities worldwide. All the positions will require travel within Europe and fluency in a European language would, therefore, be an advantage.

The Headquarters vacancies are located in Maidenhead and the others are at one of the European operating sites in Leicestershire.

### DIRECTOR OF MANUFACTURING (INTERNATIONAL SOURCING) Maidenhead

Reporting to the General Manager Operations, Europe, you will be responsible for developing and controlling existing and alternative sources of manufacture, for both new and current products, outside the present European facilities.

Extensive foreign travel will be necessary, and familiarity with production facilities in developing countries near to Western Europe is essential.

This is a senior level appointment and considerable engineering management experience will be required. A company car is provided.

### MANUFACTURING ENGINEERING MANAGER Maidenhead

Your responsibility will be to direct the manufacturing engineering staff so that all resources and technical information are available to ensure the timely introduction of products at the optimum cost, quality and safety standards.

Priorities will be to lead the preparation of new product manufacture and co-ordinate the exchange of technical information between manufacturing locations within and outside Europe.

You will have a minimum of 5 years engineering/production experience in a consumer industry, 2 of which must have been at a senior management level.

### PACKAGING ENGINEERING MANAGER Maidenhead

To direct a team of packaging materials specialists in establishing and maintaining the most cost-effective packaging for all products. Close liaison will be necessary with suppliers and the Marketing Division to ensure that both techniques and procedures remain abreast of packaging technology.

You will have a minimum of 5 years experience within the packaging industry with relevant management experience. A company car is provided.

### PACKAGING ENGINEER Maidenhead

Packaging plays a major role within this industry and so the emphasis on knowledge of design and technique is very high.

You will be accountable for the establishment and maintenance of cost-effective packaging for assigned categories of products while integrating marketing, quality and easy assembly/packing requirements. Previous experience in packaging design within a consumer industry is essential.

### COST ENGINEERING MANAGER Maidenhead

You will be required to create and develop methods of product cost estimation which in turn will provide the financial data on which sourcing and investment decisions will be made. The ability to ascertain and produce this information quickly and efficiently is essential, therefore previous costing experience within industry is necessary. A company car is provided.

### COST ENGINEER Maidenhead

To provide accurate and timely cost estimates of products within assigned product categories and maintain cost data on all products. From information collated you will be expected to propose recommendations on profitability actions.

You will ideally have 3 years cost estimating experience within a consumer industry.

### PURCHASING AGENT (INTERNATIONAL) Maidenhead

Reporting to the European Purchasing Manager, you will be responsible for identifying and negotiating with suppliers at an international level.

The full range of purchasing skills will be required, together with experience of dealing with vendors in developing countries.

### PRODUCT PLANNER Maidenhead

In conjunction with Manufacturing and Manufacturing Engineering, your brief will be to develop master plans for production schedules from conception through to completion, inclusive of materials, tooling, manpower and lead times.

2-3 years manufacturing experience, including production scheduling, is required, together with excellent communication skills.

### TOOLING ENGINEER Maidenhead

Reporting to the Tooling Manager, you will be responsible for the design of tooling for production by external tool-makers. You will need to maintain contact with the manufacturer throughout the production phase to ensure cost, quality and time parameters are met.

2-3 years relevant experience in a similar role is required, with an emphasis on injection moulding processes.

### MANUFACTURING ENGINEERS Maidenhead and Leicester

To provide all the necessary technical information on production techniques and tooling/equipment needs to allow the production of one or several product categories at the optimum cost, quality and safety standards.

Experience in engineering/production within a consumer industry is essential.

### MANUFACTURING ENGINEERING MANAGER Leicester

Reporting to the Director of Manufacturing, responsibilities will include the establishment and management of line layout, tooling and manufacturing processes for the production of all products and for method improvement for existing products.

You will have a minimum of 5 years engineering experience within a consumer industry, 2 of which must have been at a senior management level. A company car is provided.

### PRODUCT SAFETY/RELIABILITY MANAGER Leicester

The industry is subject to strict international safety regulations and codes, and your responsibility will be to ensure that all products adhere to the necessary standards from initial planning through to product testing.

You will have at least 5 years experience of product safety within an international product industry, 2 of which have been in a management role, have a degree in Engineering, Physics, or Chemistry, and be able to communicate in both German and French at all levels.

### PRODUCT RELIABILITY ENGINEER Leicester

Your brief will be to develop and implement reliability test specifications and procedures to ensure that new product designs are both reliable and fit for use throughout their determined life span. Previous experience of quality and reliability testing in a consumer industry is essential.

The highly-competitive salaries for all these positions will, naturally, reflect both ability and responsibility and provide excellent rewards, including a substantial bonus based on performance and commitment. Normal large-company benefits, including BUPA, will be enjoyed, and relocation assistance will be available, if necessary. Some positions, where specified, will attract a company car.

**EA**

**Bryan Firth & Associates**

Please write in confidence (identities will not be revealed without prior permission) sending a full CV, showing current salary to either:

**Bryan Firth**  
**Bryan Firth & Associates**  
1 Garrick House  
Carrington Street  
London W1Y 7LF

or  
**Ted Gorman**

**Edward Gorman & Associates**  
**NEM House, Newland**  
**Lincoln LN1 1XG**  
**Telephone: (0522) 44476**

Interviews will be held locally where possible.

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Our client is one of the fastest growth companies in the world of bottled and canned goods. We are now seeking top line professionals to play a part in their development in the following areas:

### General Manager - Middle East

Up to \$90,000

Aged 35-45

You will ideally have a strong track record in general management combined with merchandising skills, and backed by ten years experience in the soft drinks or other closely allied industries. Relevant overseas experience is desirable but not essential for this demanding position.

### Technical Director - Europe

\$36,000

Aged 30-45

You will have a relevant technical degree with an exceptional background in quality control, gained with a market leader in the soft drinks, food or brewing industry. You will be able to manage a small technical consultancy team and be expected to travel.

### Marketing Manager - Europe

\$36,000

Aged 28-35

You will have a good degree and show first class marketing skills backed by a high level of ambition. Your experience will lie with a top line FMCG company.

- the above salaries are approximate and along with benefits are open to negotiation. - we are interested in hearing from highly motivated individuals who would be interested in discussing the above current opportunities further.

Please write in the first instance, to me, Robin Withersedge, Consultant to the Group enclosing your CV. All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence until you have been briefed on the relevant position and given your consent.

**BDC (International) Ltd**  
63 Mansell Street London E1 6AN

**BDC**

Star Executives Limited has been retained to advise on the following positions: Our clients are a major wholesale/retail group with substantial and varied interests in all significant trading areas throughout the United Kingdom. In keeping with a carefully planned expansion programme they now wish to make the following career appointments:

### OPERATIONS/MARKETING MANAGER

STARTING AT CIRCA  
**£25,000 pa**

+ company car  
+ bonus

#### Garage Operations (SE/3772)

This is a chain of retail car garages with both car franchises and petrol sales. A major programme of expansion is planned. Candidates will probably be aged 28/40. A proven record of success in controlling a group of garages with high profit-related performance is essential.

### OPERATIONS/MARKETING MANAGER

STARTING AT CIRCA  
**£25,000 pa**

+ company car  
+ bonus

#### Fast Fit Centres (SE/3773)

This is a new development which will be operated from existing garage sites, free-standing sites or concessions. A particularly high rate of growth is planned. Candidates will probably be aged 28/40. A sound technical knowledge is required together with an exceptional record of sales and profit achievement within the area of Fast Fit Centres.

Please contact in absolute confidence Rod Boath, Star Executives Limited, 184/188 Oxford Street, London W1N 8AJ (Entrance and Reception 28/30 Market Place). 01-580 0843.

**EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT RECRUITMENT**

**SEL**

**WLG Williams Lea Group**

### Group Personnel Manager

London c£20,000 + Car

The Group Consists of seven specialist companies in printing and related activities and is one of the largest private companies in the industry. It is a profitable company with ambitious plans for expansion. Its strength lies in the quality of the people employed and their commitment to success, coupled with a high level of investment in new technology.

The Job Responsible to the Executive Chairman for achieving progressive improvement in all aspects of the Personnel function throughout the Group. The Group Personnel Manager is a member of a small corporate team involved with the development of the Group and also works closely with the Chief Executives and management teams of the individual companies.

The Person Experienced in personnel management generally with emphasis on management development and recruitment and selection. He or she is likely to be a university graduate with an IPM qualification, preferably between 30-40 who enjoys working in an informal atmosphere.

The Rewards Salary will be negotiable around £20,000 with a company car and other excellent benefits.

Please write in confidence details of your career to date to: **Tony Williams, Group Chairman**, Williams Lea Group Limited, 224-248 Old Street, London EC1Y 9DD

*Grey, Collins*



## HORIZONS

## The Times guide to career development

## Uncle Sam may want you

It would be premature to say that the US is throwing open its doors to the huddled mass of British job-seekers, but the position has improved over the last year, mainly because of the recovery in the US economy. Inflation is down to 5 per cent, industrial output up by 16 per cent and unemployment down to 7.8 per cent, close to what is considered virtually "full employment". Indeed, some American economists are worried that lack of skilled workers could slow up the country's enviable progress.

So it is not surprising that advertisements from US employers in British papers and activities by their head-hunters are on the increase and that they cover a wide variety of sectors: not just the currently fashionable areas of biotechnology and electronics. It is nevertheless difficult to win residence permits.

## Money is not the great advantage

Most people going from here to the US have temporary work visas, and the US Embassy says it is now issuing 800 to 1,000 of these every month. They run for about a year, but can be extended.

They are not granted on demand. You have to have an invitation from a US employer who must prove no US citizen is available to do the job. In the case of professional people, your qualifications have to be vetted before an application is approved. The

## Godfrey Golzen looks at the improving chances of finding work in North America

process normally takes about three months.

Money is not quite the incentive it used to be for wanting to work in the US. Many people, from academics to business people find the atmosphere there more stimulating, but the salary gap is narrowing. American employers are less generous than those in Britain about fringe benefits. For instance, except in more senior jobs, a company car is not normally provided. They are also much less forthcoming there about stating salaries in newspaper advertisements, which makes it difficult to compare an offer with going rates.

Anyone thinking of working in the US could find an exploratory visit a good investment - but do not say in your visa application that this is the purpose of your trip, because it would then almost certainly be refused.

The Canadian economy is very much tied up with the Americans, so things are looking up there too, although unemployment is still at 11 per cent. Canadian employers are principally looking over here for skilled workers, particularly those in high technology and telecommunications. As in the US, you need an offer from a Canadian firm to work

there - it is illegal to go as a tourist and then take up a job.

One way to emigrate to Canada without an offer of employment is by going there to set up a business. The Canadians are now very positive about encouraging entrepreneurs with a proven track record and who are willing to invest at least £100,000 in such a venture - the figure has to be appropriate to the type of business involved. Ideally it should also be a generator of jobs.

Though you are expected to investigate the potential for yourself, the Canadian High Commission Immigration Division, 38 Upper Grosvenor Street, London W1, will answer further inquiries about the business development scheme. So are the London offices of the various Canadian provinces.

## Official help from the Canadians

The US has a similar business immigrants' visa: the so-called treaty traders and treaty investors' schemes. In both countries small businesses are playing an important part in the economic recovery, but as in Britain, the failure rates are high. Anyone contemplating joining the entrepreneurial brain drain should note that if things are tough here, competition is the name of the game on the other side of the Atlantic.

## Next week: openings in South Africa

## NEWSROUND

**Simon Walsh reports:** Middle managers are not only finding themselves with a narrowing pay differential between themselves and other workers, as was reported by the British Institute of Management last week in its annual salary survey. Their very existence could be threatened by economic development.

New technology is making much of the information they were once responsible for collating directly accessible to senior management. This, according to Tony Miles of the BIM, could compound the effects of lowering pay differentials, and contribute towards a marked reduction in the motivation of staff in middle management functions.

"There is no doubt that senior management in the past year tended to deal directly with the workforce, so by-passing middle management", Mr Miles explained. "Technological developments, and in particular the progress of information technology, may put the jobs of junior and middle managers under stress. Both these factors may therefore result in the middle manager feeling squeezed."

"If he is being squeezed for these reasons, he may well find himself feeling decidedly demotivated. People may therefore find themselves less willing to take up these types of position."

**Michel Syrett reports:** Anyone who is unemployed and fed up with benefit

regulations they cannot understand will welcome a new countryside. Freephone service launched by the DHSS last month.

The service provides information and advice about the current range of social security benefits and the problems involved in claiming them. The idea is quite simple - by dialling 100 and asking for Freephone DHSS, the operator will connect you to the nearest DHSS Freephone Centre. These are situated around the country to use the staff's knowledge of both national and local issues. The emphasis is on general advice and information.

The Freephone staff do not have access to personal files and cannot therefore answer questions like "Where's my giro?" They can, however, provide guidance on filling in forms, what benefits you may be entitled to, which office you should be dealing with and whether you may have a right of appeal.

The only region not currently covered by the service is the London postal district. The DHSS hope to have extended it to the capital by the spring of next year.

**Sally Watts reports:** Nearly a quarter of a million people, the largest number so far, became self-employed as direct-sellers in 1983, reports a new survey from the Direct Selling Association. Last year's 248,000 recruits to the DSA's member-com-

panies included men and women developing a new main source of income, as well as people working for a few hours a week to add to their basic.

The products they sold ranged from household goods, cosmetics and educational books to clothes, toys, pictures and porcelain. DSA members adhere to a code of professional practice. After basic training, sellers are able to learn the techniques of marketing and business administration, either to run their own enterprise or to progress inside a company, in many cases to positions of senior management.

**Dominic Brender reports:** In Festival of Architecture Year, Montrose Architecture, the specialist recruitment agency, reports that since the beginning of 1984 there has been a huge increase of jobs in architecture.

Architects are now confident enough to take on increasing numbers of temporary staff which will in turn lead to long-term requirements for permanent staff, the agency claims. The prospects look better now than at any time in the last five years, and the result will be that all other areas of the Construction Industry will start to pick up as architecture represents only the first stage of the Design and Construction process.

Further information is available from Terry Moore, director of Montrose Architecture, on 01-828 4975.

## General Appointments



## Same Systems. More Say.

Oman's strategic territorial waters on the Straits of Hormuz in the Arabian Sea are patrolled round the clock by its small, fast and highly advanced Navy. Just one of its vital functions. The Sultan of Oman's Navy operates the same on-board and land based systems as the Royal Navy, but in some cases these systems are further advanced, especially in Weapons and Main Propulsion.

Equipped with the latest digital gunnery and missile systems including the M40 Exocet, Oman's Navy represents existing professional and training challenges to Seaman Officers especially with PWO or AWO expertise.

The organisation and structure of Naval operations in Oman have been influenced dramatically by former Officers from the Royal Navy and over the past ten years they have implemented the same effective management traditionally

associated with the RN. But with one important difference. Every Officer joining the Sultan of Oman's Navy will not only be challenged but will, by his experience, affect the future development of the Navy. A challenge that a larger service cannot offer. Simply More Say.

It is surprising for most to discover that Oman has a geography of rugged mountains, green valleys, oases and hundreds of miles of fertile coastal plains. Its people are proud, liberal and very hospitable - their culture embraces Islam, and their strong maritime traditions provide an important link between the British and Omani People, and mutual respect is widely evident.

LT COMMANDERS	\$20,538* PATAN FREE
LIEUTENANTS	\$17,077* PATAN FREE

PLS BONUS OF 20% OF TOTAL EARNINGS AFTER 2 YEARS SERVICE



قوات سلطان عمان البحرية  
SULTAN OF OMAN'S NAVY  
WARFARE OFFICER

Benefits are excellent and include free accommodation, all usual mess facilities, victualling on a pay as you eat basis, free sports and recreation, use of a car with free fuel and servicing, 60 days leave per year with three free flights and facilities for family visits.

Contracts are for unaccompanied uniformed service, initially for 2 years, renewable thereafter annually by mutual agreement. Salary is paid locally in Omani Rials and is fully remittable. During contracts, Officers will be fully appointable throughout the service according to their rank and specialisation.

For more information and an application form, please write or telephone Helen Griffey, ARA International, 17-18 Maddox Street, London W1R 0EY. Tel: 01-408 1010 (quoting Ref. OTT/2).

Young Software Engineers  
Gain experience with Intel Software Tools

As a young and ambitious Software Engineer, you've already recognised how important it will be in the next few years to have a CV that includes Intel expertise.

As one of the world's most successful names in telecommunications, we've also recognised the importance of the contribution Intel Development Systems can make to our own business career.

Which could be one of the reasons why the past 5 years - with Intel in routine use - have seen us grow by 30% compound per annum in UK markets - and our software team too.

Now we need to add to them a further small number of specialists at all levels, working on the D&D of both software support systems and real-time software projects for our dynamic Small Business Telecommunications Systems.

For young and ambitious Software Engineers with at least 24 months' post-grad experience in industry, we believe this pattern of expansion, our small project team

structure, generous capital resourcing and front-line involvement with customers and marketers, gives you the room to make a substantial, highly innovative and highly visible contribution to the D&D effort - and the room for truly spectacular personal growth. (Our firm commitment to training and professional development will help ensure that).

If your CV features fluency in C or C++ or another block-structured language, familiarity with CPM, Intel

Development Systems or 8085/8088 micros, and possibly knowledge of telephone switching or man-machine interfaces, contact Jonathan Harris, our Personnel Officer, today to discuss a starting salary in the range £8,800-£12,250, a location 30 minutes' drive from Oxford and Bath and other substantial benefits. M414

TMC Limited, Swindon Road, Malmesbury, Wilts SN1 6PN. Tel: (06662) 2861 ext. 2209.

PHILIPS

## Director of New Business Development

Age 35-45 Salary Indicator £50,000

Our client is a major insurance broking group with a substantial retail network. A separate division within the retail company co-ordinates new business development worldwide. A senior Executive is required to spearhead the development of this division.

Candidates for this demanding position will be established developers of general branch business. They will have the ability to lead, motivate and develop the business development team and introduce new production concepts. The ability to communicate with, and handle clients at the top level is essential.

You will have a seat on the board from the outset and will be remunerated in line with the seniority and importance of the position. Long term prospects are excellent.

For further information, and to apply, please write to me, Sue Walford. Your name will not go forward to our client until you have been fully briefed, and have given your consent.

LAS

LONSDALE ADVERTISING SERVICES LTD  
Hesketh House, Portman Square, London W1H 9FG

## PR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

CIRCA £12,000 p.a.

A travel, leisure and sport-oriented marketing consultancy requires a PR Account Executive. The successful candidate will be enthusiastic, able to manage their own accounts independently, using a creative and confident approach. There is scope to use individual initiative in a small but progressive environment. A cheerful, reliable and tactful personality with a good educational background, typing and editorial skills are essential. FPP, contributory pension scheme and a pleasant, working environment are offered in addition to the other opportunities. For application form and more details, telephone: Kim Kable-White or Graham Grant 741 4971. Input Marketing Services, Benda House, Cambridge Grove, Hammersmith, W6 7LE

A member of the KEITH PROWSE/EXPOTEL GROUP OF COMPANIES

## CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

LALIQUE LIMITED

Crystal/Porcelain/Silver

Requires experienced Sales Person for their Mayfair Shop. A warm, and friendly personality is essential. Salary negotiable.

For further details telephone:  
MME VAN BRITSOM 01-408 2106

ARCHITECTS  
Clapham Common.  
Results experienced  
BOOK-KEEPER/FINANCIAL  
ASSISTANT

to have responsibility for all aspects of Bookkeeping to trial balance, fee invoicing and PAYE in interesting and friendly studio office.

Knowledge of Kalamazoo system and an ability to type an advantage.

Salary negotiable.

Please reply in writing with CV to Rosemary Powell, Eagle Studios, 73b, Clapham Common, Southside, London SW4 9DG.

## MARKETING/SALES DIRECTOR

Subsidiary 51/2000 The leading firm of specialist publishers in art and design has an immediate requirement for a Marketing Director. The successful candidate will be responsible for the overall management of the company's marketing and sales activities. He will be required to develop and implement a comprehensive marketing strategy for the company's products. He will also be responsible for the recruitment and training of the marketing and sales staff. He will be required to work closely with the company's senior management and to report to them on the progress of the marketing and sales activities. He will be required to have a minimum of 10 years' experience in a similar position. He will be required to have a degree in a relevant subject. He will be required to have a proven track record in the marketing and sales of art and design products. He will be required to have a proven track record in the recruitment and training of marketing and sales staff. 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# General Appointments

## Managing Director RankPhicom—Video Duplication Division

### Young, Dynamic and Successful

These characteristics best describe both the Company, Rank Phicom Video Duplication, and the qualities required to become the Managing Director. Add proven general management skills gained in a fast moving international environment, a charismatic personality coupled with a razor sharp brain and a creative flair with a disciplined approach to business, and you have some idea of the unique calibre of person required.

If you have these attributes, would you welcome the opportunity of leading the team of dedicated and highly talented professionals, all of them aged around 30, who have combined to make RPVD the largest and most widely respected duplication house in the European video business?

This achievement owes much to the massive and continuing investment in the most advanced technology available, as well as to the great emphasis placed on quality both in terms of product and service.

Consequently, RPVD now has an unrivalled client base which includes the majority of the leading Hollywood based film companies. Further major investments are planned as the demand continues to grow for the Company's services, not only for the home video market in the UK and overseas but also in the commercial and industrial fields.

"Cast the net wide" was the message from the Group's Managing Director, "and find an exceptionally confident, level headed entrepreneur, aged 30/35, with an exemplary

record of success in a marketing led international organisation, who will develop and lead the team. The salary and incentives will be high and I cannot envisage the package presenting any problem in attracting the right calibre of person. The post will be based in Central London but the appointment necessitates a willingness to travel at short notice when needs dictate."

Could you meet this challenge? If so, please write giving brief career details to the Company's adviser, Peter S. Findlay, Senior Consultant, Cripps, Sears & Associates Ltd., (Personnel Consultants), 88/89 High Holborn, London WC1V 6LH. Tel. 01-404 5701. Interviews will be held both in London and Newbury.

## Cripps, Sears

## Sociological/Psychological Research Consultant into the Future of Retailing

The Burton Group is one of the largest and most successful retail organisations in Britain. The Burton Research Unit in Central London comprises a small group of highly qualified people who study together and separately the nature and format of retailing in the future. This group would like to recruit an outstanding individual capable of contributing in a disciplined and creative way to a sociological/psychological perspective on a number of issues pertaining to the future roles of work, leisure, money, technology, shopping and the family, so that the Group may continue to plan to successfully meet the needs of its markets up to and beyond the turn of the century. An interest in the debate over post-industrialism would therefore be preferable, and in the sociology of economics essential. The appointment is part-time. The Research Unit meets informally approximately six times a year. A fee commensurate with the involvement and abilities of the successful candidate (male or female) will be paid.

Please write to: Paul Williams, Secretary,  
The Burton Research Unit, 8-11 Gt. Castle Street, W1.



## BODLEIAN LIBRARY University of Oxford

### Computer Programmer

Four-year contract for a programmer to investigate and advise on use of microcomputer packages for various library applications. Salary scale Research Support 1A (£7190-£11615). Applications and further particulars from the Secretary, Bodleian Library, Oxford OX1 3BG. Closing date 15 May 1984.

## MARKETING MANAGER

### FAST FOODS from £16,000 plus Car

Our client is a well established American fast food corporation, the leader in its market sector, offering an exciting and challenging environment.

Reporting directly to the Marketing Director the appointment will be based at the company's UK Head Office in Surrey. The Marketing Manager will have a tremendous opportunity for personal advancement, the previous incumbents having gained rapid promotion.

The ideal candidate will have a proven all-round knowledge of key marketing disciplines including:-

- \* Experience in developing & managing national TV advertising budgets.
- \* High level achievements in packaged goods or retail distribution industries.
- \* Strategic planning, research, N.P.D., forecasting and quantitative analysis.
- \* Well developed presentation skills.

Personally, he or she, will be aged 25-35, educated to degree standard, be numerate, persuasive, able to display toughness of character and work effectively under pressure.

In addition to the salary quoted there are attractive fringe benefits including BUPA, pension, etc. Please forward a full CV showing current salary details in complete confidence to the Managing Director:-

**RAM CONSULTANTS LIMITED**  
1 Garrick House, Carrington Street  
London W1Y 7LF. (Tel: 01-627 3215)

## Cable Programmes Head of Engineering

Salary negotiable London Central

Our client, a major UK based organisation leading cable television programming in Europe has a unique opportunity for a qualified engineer to oversee its technical services and play a major part in developing the future of cable television in Europe.

The person appointed will control all technical matters related to the preparation and distribution of programmes including establishing a network, operation, control, co-ordinating all technical interfaces with carriers and cable operators in the UK and Europe, organising mastering, dubbing and shipping operations and liaising with facilities houses.

Candidates should have detailed knowledge of cable technology combined with full technical understanding of distribution via satellite and fibre optic cable. Experience of broadcast television and facilities house operations would be a distinct advantage.

This new and challenging appointment offers an exceptional opportunity to develop a successful career in a new and expanding industry where technical and managerial skills will be fully utilised.

Please send detailed c.v. to Brian G. Luxton quoting reference number 6704.

**Mervyn Hughes  
Alexandre Tlc  
(International) Ltd.**  
Management Recruitment Consultants



37 Golden Square,  
London W1R 4AN.  
Tel: 01-434 4091.

## Looking for an Overseas Job?

Worldwide Employment News has over 350 jobs advertised each week. To make sure you receive up to date information on the overseas job market ring Worldwide Employment News TELEPHONE 01 353 1675 or write to Denise Spragg WORLDWIDE EMPLOYMENT NEWS, FREEPOST, LONDON EC4B 4AN

Subscription UK £12.95 EUROPE £17.95 ELSEWHERE £21.00  
Rate - 13 weeks

## BARBADOS RESIDENTS ONLY

Church Point Ltd, Hove, Sussex, Barbadose, cottage colony Manager required. De Luxe, 8 cottage unit requires capable, mature, person or couple with accounting & managerial experience. Candidates could possibly be retired from banking or other professional service and perhaps seeking a further 3 or 4 years of employment. Accommodation on site for successful applicant. Write full application with references Box 1298 L The Times.

## TENNECO UNITED KINGDOM INC.

Tenneco U.K., Inc. is a wholly owned and operated subsidiary of Tenneco Oil Company, a major energy resource company with worldwide operations. Because of our continually expanding exploration activities in North-West Europe, Tenneco U.K. requires the following personnel to join its dynamic, professional team of explorationists.

### EXPLORATION GEOLOGIST

Prefer MSc. degree in Geology with 3 to 5 years exploration experience in the North Sea. Familiarity with well site operations is desirable.

### EXPLORATION GEOPHYSICIST

Prefer minimum BSc. degree in Geology or Geophysics with 3 to 5 years seismic interpretation experience in the North Sea. Some experience in data acquisition and processing would be an advantage.

Salary and benefits for each position are highly competitive. Tenneco U.K., Inc. is located in new offices in Richmond-Upon-Thames and offers a pleasant, modern working environment.

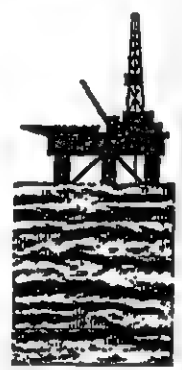
To apply please contact:

John Parrish - Geological Manager  
Andy Sautter - Geophysical Manager  
01-948-5199

or send resumé to

General Manager:  
Tenneco United Kingdom, Inc.  
1, Castle Yard,  
Richmond,  
Surrey. TW10 6TF

NO RECRUITMENT  
AGENCIES PLEASE



## SENIOR TALKS ASSISTANT

### External Broadcasting

To join Central Current Affairs Talks Department to write commentaries on current international and domestic issues for use throughout the External Services. The scripts are largely for translation, but may also be broadcast in English on the World Service.

Proven writing ability is essential, together with a wide interest in international affairs. Specialised knowledge of at least two areas of the world is required and preference may be given to those with an interest in US affairs and foreign policy, East-West relations, international economics, the Middle East and British politics. Candidates should have experience of journalism or academic work beyond the undergraduate level.

Salary £12,637 - £15,453 plus an allowance of £537 p.a. Based Central London. Relocation expenses considered.

Contact us immediately for application form (quote ref. 3285/T and enclose s.a.e.) BBC Appointments, London W1A 1AA. Tel. 01-927 5799.

We are an Equal Opportunities employer



## Tayside Regional Council

### Appointment of DEPUTY CHIEF CONSTABLE and ASSISTANT CHIEF CONSTABLE

Applications are invited for (a) the post of Deputy Chief Constable for Tayside which will become vacant on 1st September, 1984, and (b) the post of Assistant Chief Constable of Tayside which will become vacant on 2nd July, 1984.

The current salary for the Deputy Chief Constable is £23,949 and for the Assistant Chief Constable £22,809, both plus other allowances as per Regulations.

Forms of Application may be obtained from the Chief Executive, Tayside Regional Council, Tayside House, Crichton Street, Dundee, Telephone Dundee (0382) 23281. Extension 3813, and must be returned by Wednesday, 16th May, 1984.

## The Department of Health of a leading private, non-profit, international agency is seeking a

### Senior Executive

to co-ordinate the department's hospital programme. A master's degree with a specialisation in Hospital Administration and/or Health Care Administration from an approved college or university required. At least 10 years' experience in hospital management and/or administration including at least 3 years as Administrator or Chief Executive Officer in a teaching hospital required. Experience in planning, personnel management, quality control and communications, including marketing, required. Strong background in financial management essential. Overseas multi-racial experience an important asset.

This post is based in France, knowledge of French useful but not essential. Frequent travel to developing countries necessary. Competitive salary and comprehensive benefits are offered for a challenging job.

Forward full CV, referees and salary requirements to: Formes et Idées, 1 Bis Rue de Paradis, 75010 Paris noting Ref 60270 on envelope before end May.

## Chief Adjudicator — Immigration

LONDON £27,785

The Immigration Act 1971 provides for a system of appeal against decisions taken in the administration of immigration control.

The Chief Adjudicator has overall responsibility for the hearing of immigration appeals under the Act and for the efficient management of the arrangements for hearing appeals, including the allocation of duties to the 16 full-time and 53 part-time adjudicators based in locations throughout the U.K. In addition to his/her other duties, the Chief Adjudicator also hears appeals in person. The post is based in London, where the Chief Adjudicator is the focal point of consultations between adjudicators on matters of administration and practice.

Appointment will be for a specified period — normally not less than 10 years if the successful candidate is aged under 55. Essential qualifications are a proven ability to conduct a public hearing and decide appeals impartially, together with a capacity to advise Adjudicators on problems of a legal nature. A legal qualification, though desirable, is not essential but judicial experience in this country and overseas will be an advantage.

Salary will be £26,535 plus £1,250 Inner London Weighting. The post is pensionable.

For further information and an application form, to be returned by 23rd May 1984, please write to the Principal Establishment Officer, Home Office, Room 220, Whitehall House, 19-30 Alfred Place, London WC1E 7EA.

The Home Office is an Equal Opportunities Employer.



## MERSEY REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

### PROJECT MANAGER

for Supplies Re-organisation

Salary scale 27 £12,958-£16,524 p.a.

The Regional Health Authority is re-organising its Supplies Service and is seeking an experienced person who will be responsible to the Regional Supplies Officer for the co-ordination and implementation of major changes in the Region's Supply Function.

The Project Manager will be required to work closely with Senior Management in co-ordinating and implementing a complete and complex programme of change relating to the Region's 256 million Supplies commitment. Planned changes include the development of a new 100,000 sq. ft. Regional Central Store and an associated distribution service throughout the Region; implementation of new computerised Supplies Information and Stock Control and Accounting systems; development of innovative and more economically effective Purchasing and Supply policies, and implementation of modern methods and technology in all Supplies operations.

As a later stage the post-holder will progressively assume other managerial responsibilities for specified operational functions in the Regional Supplies Department.

Candidates, who will be expected to be professionally qualified, must be able to demonstrate proven achievement in the implementation of change in a large and complex organisation, and ideally have some experience in Purchasing and Supply.

For further information or an informal discussion, please telephone Don Greenhalgh, Regional Supplies Officer, on 061-236-7122.

Application form, job description and full details from: Regional Personnel Officer, Mersey Regional Health Authority, Whitehouse House, 2 The Strand, Liverpool L2 7RW. Telephone: 061-236-8464.

Closing date for applications: 18th May, 1984.

## A Worldwide Privately Owned Financial Services Group

requires

### Personnel Director

This is a new appointment and requires a very flexible but disciplined individual to recruit, train and retain rapidly increasing numbers of staff at all levels in different businesses in an expanding number of locations.

The appointment, which will probably be London based, but will require travel and work abroad, is of course open to women and men.

Please apply in hand writing to Paul M. Griffin, 1545

Daven Street, London W1.







## PERSONAL COLUMNS

## HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

**CORFU, SKIATHOS & ZANTE**  
Superb villa, studio & hotel holidays in unspoilt locations close to glorious sandy beaches. May offers. Corfu from £139 pp, 1 wk, £159 pp, 2 wks, Skiathos/Birmingham departures.

**ILIOS ISLAND HOLIDAYS**  
14th Market Square, Hordham, W Sussex RH12 1EU  
ATOL 1452 0403 5978 (24hr) AITO

## SPRING BARGAINS

VILLA / TAVERNIA / PENSION HOTEL HOLIDAYS AT GIVE AWAY PRICES  
HOLIDAYS INCLUDE FLIGHTS, TRANSPORT, ACCOMMODATION, MEALS

CORFU	CRETE	SPETSES/POROS
SUNDAY MORNING	SUN MORNING	FRIDAY EVENING
Getwick & Manchester	Getwick	Getwick & Manchester
6/5-£139	6/5-£139	4/5-£129
13/5-£139	13/5-£139	11/5-£129
20/5-£149	20/5-£169	18/5-£139

TEL: 01-828 7682

## PERFECTION!

The Sunshine Island of  
**MADEIRA**  
and the luxury of the fabulous  
5 Star SAVOY HOTEL

From £222 (Bed & Breakfast)  
Flights from Gatwick, Heathrow or Manchester  
MADEIRA HOUSE, CORRU STREET, WINNEY, OXON  
ATOL 982, Dept WTC, Tel (0993) 71555

## CUT THE COST OF FLYING

Summer Flights  
FROM

FROM	TO	Low	High
Albania	London	£115	£115
Algeria	London	£115	£115
Andorra	London	£115	£115
Armenia	London	£115	£115
Austria	London	£115	£115
Azerbaijan	London	£115	£115
Bahrain	London	£115	£115
Belarus	London	£115	£115
Belgium	London	£115	£115
Bulgaria	London	£115	£115
Czech Republic	London	£115	£115
Denmark	London	£115	£115
Egypt	London	£115	£115
Finland	London	£115	£115
France	London	£115	£115
Germany	London	£115	£115
Greece	London	£115	£115
Hungary	London	£115	£115
Ireland	London	£115	£115
Italy	London	£115	£115
Japan	London	£115	£115
Kazakhstan	London	£115	£115
Kyrgyzstan	London	£115	£115
Latvia	London	£115	£115
Lithuania	London	£115	£115
Malta	London	£115	£115
Moldova	London	£115	£115
Monaco	London	£115	£115
Morocco	London	£115	£115
Netherlands	London	£115	£115
Norway	London	£115	£115
Poland	London	£115	£115
Portugal	London	£115	£115
Romania	London	£115	£115
Russia	London	£115	£115
Slovakia	London	£115	£115
Slovenia	London	£115	£115
Spain	London	£115	£115
Sweden	London	£115	£115
Switzerland	London	£115	£115
Tajikistan	London	£115	£115
Tanzania	London	£115	£115
Turkey	London	£115	£115
Ukraine	London	£115	£115
United Kingdom	London	£115	£115
USA	London	£115	£115
Uzbekistan	London	£115	£115
Vietnam	London	£115	£115
Yemen	London	£115	£115
Yugoslavia	London	£115	£115

## WORLDWIDE FLIGHTS

Winter / Summer / Spring / Summer / Autumn / Winter

ATOL 1232 AITA

## CORFU LUXURY VILLAS

Luxury villas and apartments available at special prices. Contact: 01-828 7682

## VILLA ROYALE

SOUTH OF FRANCE  
London tel: 01-402 0128

## COST CUTTERS

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## NICE, GENEVA, Zurich, Rome, Paris

ATOL 1232 AITA

## MALAGA, TENERIFE, Ibiza, 01-441

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## LUX FURN HOUSE 20 miles from

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## LATIN AMERICAN TRAVEL

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## FARO / ALICANTE / MALAGA

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## TALL TIME OFF to the South

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## ALICANTE, Valencia, 01-441

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## SITUATIONS WANTED

ONE OFF  
Experienced person sought for a variety of jobs. Contact: 01-828 7682

GRADUATE  
Experienced person sought for a variety of jobs. Contact: 01-828 7682

ACCOUNTANT/BOOKKEEPER  
Experienced person sought for a variety of jobs. Contact: 01-828 7682

SHORT LETS  
Experienced person sought for a variety of jobs. Contact: 01-828 7682

PARK LANE, W.I.  
Experienced person sought for a variety of jobs. Contact: 01-828 7682

W.I. of Cornwall, Devon  
Experienced person sought for a variety of jobs. Contact: 01-828 7682

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**CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10**